

# little village

Iowa City's news and culture magazine • February 2004

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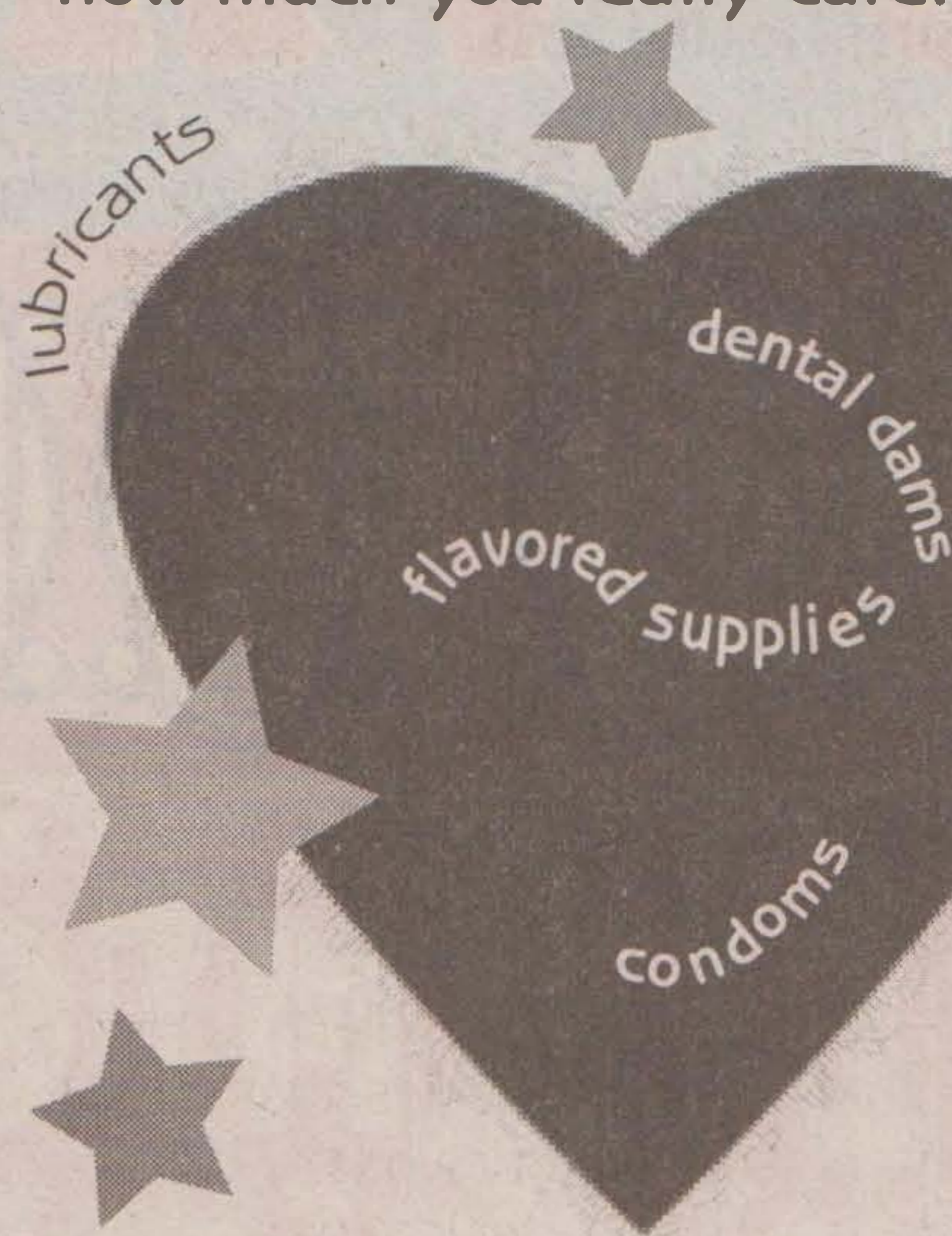
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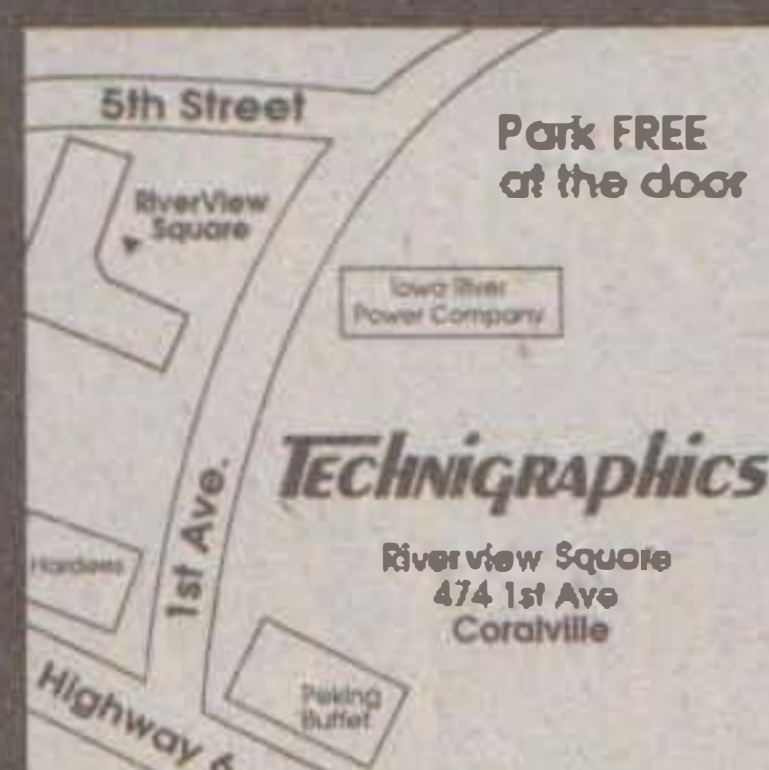
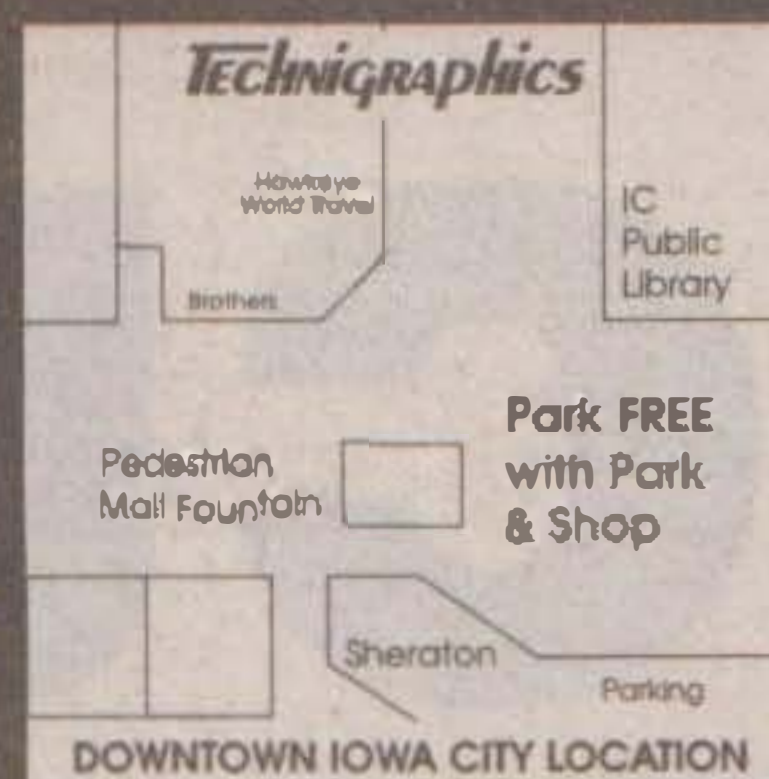
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### Forest for the trees

What a strange and paradoxical world we live in. While Iowans are preparing to spend millions of dollars to construct an artificial rainforest in Coralville, President Bush overturns the Roadless Area Conservation Act to open the Tongass National Forest in Alaska for commercial logging. Regardless of the merits of constructing artificial ecosystems for the purposes of education and tourism, it seems absurd to undertake such ventures at the same time we are systematically destroying the only remaining natural areas left to us. The Tongass National Forest is home to many species that are rare or endangered, such as grizzly bears, black bears, whales, sitka deer, mountain goats, wolves, and bald eagles. Native Americans and other humans who use this area for hunting, fishing and recreational purposes deserve to have it

protected from the increased pollution and soil erosion that commercial logging will bring. This is to say nothing of the value of leaving pristine wilderness areas untouched by human development simply for their own sakes, as well as for the sake of ecological balance. What is the point of constructing artificial rainforests in places where they don't belong, if we continue to destroy the only remaining natural areas in the places where they do? No tree or animal in a glass cage can teach us anything about the world we live in, if we have not first valued that world for its own inherent worth, and not just for the economic gain we can extract from it. According to the biblical tradition which informs my own understanding of the

*continued on page 5*

## little village

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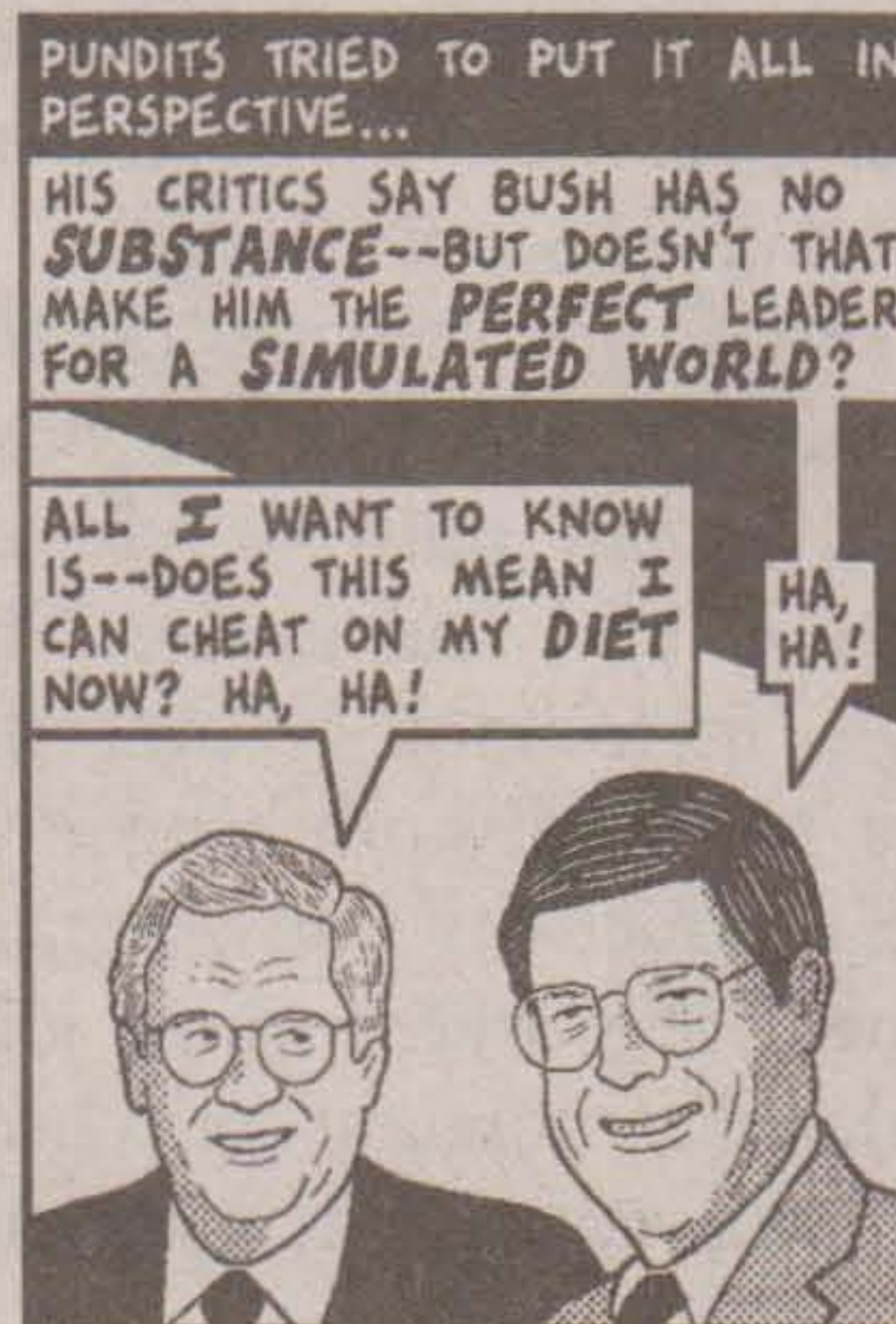
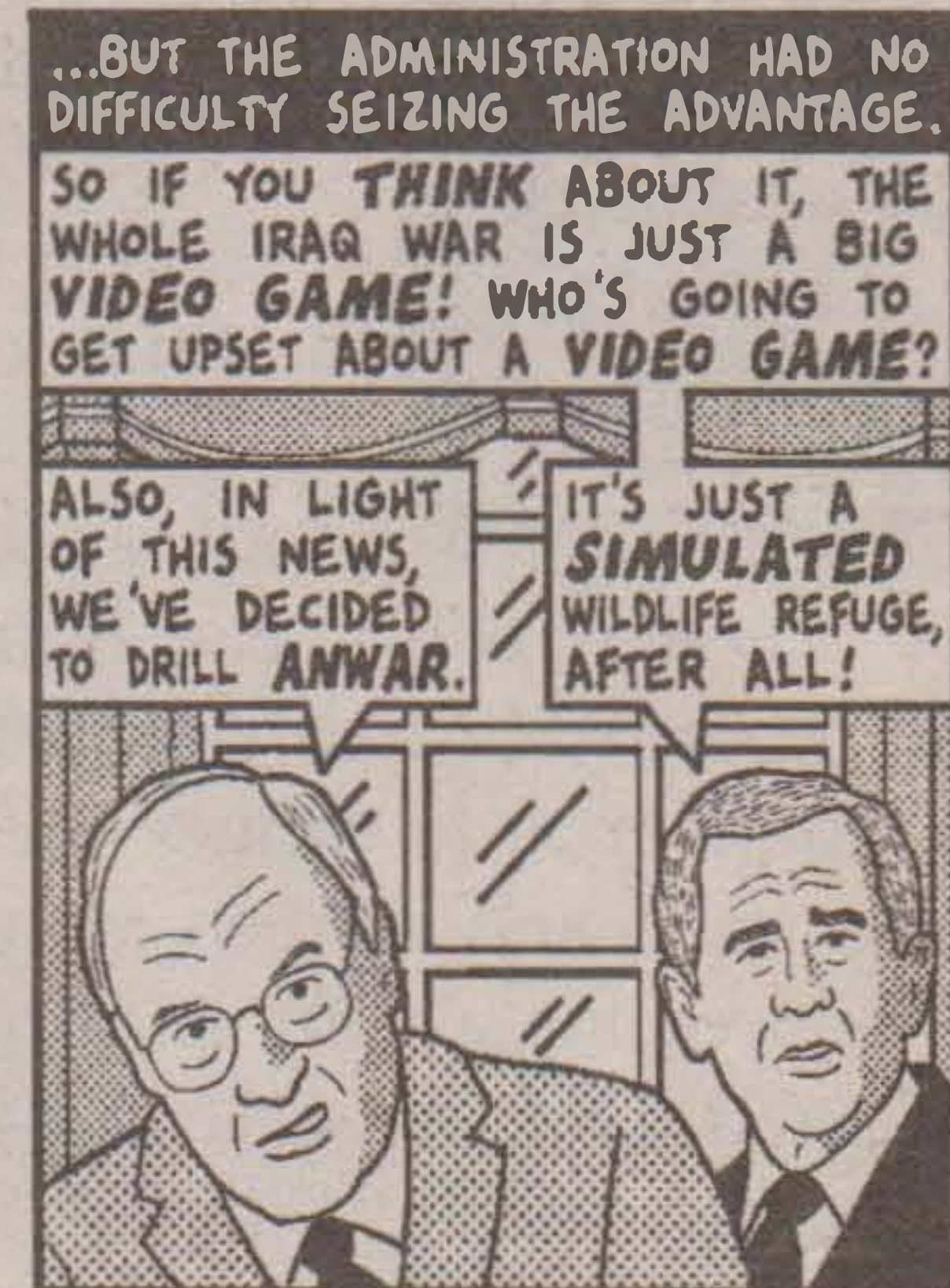
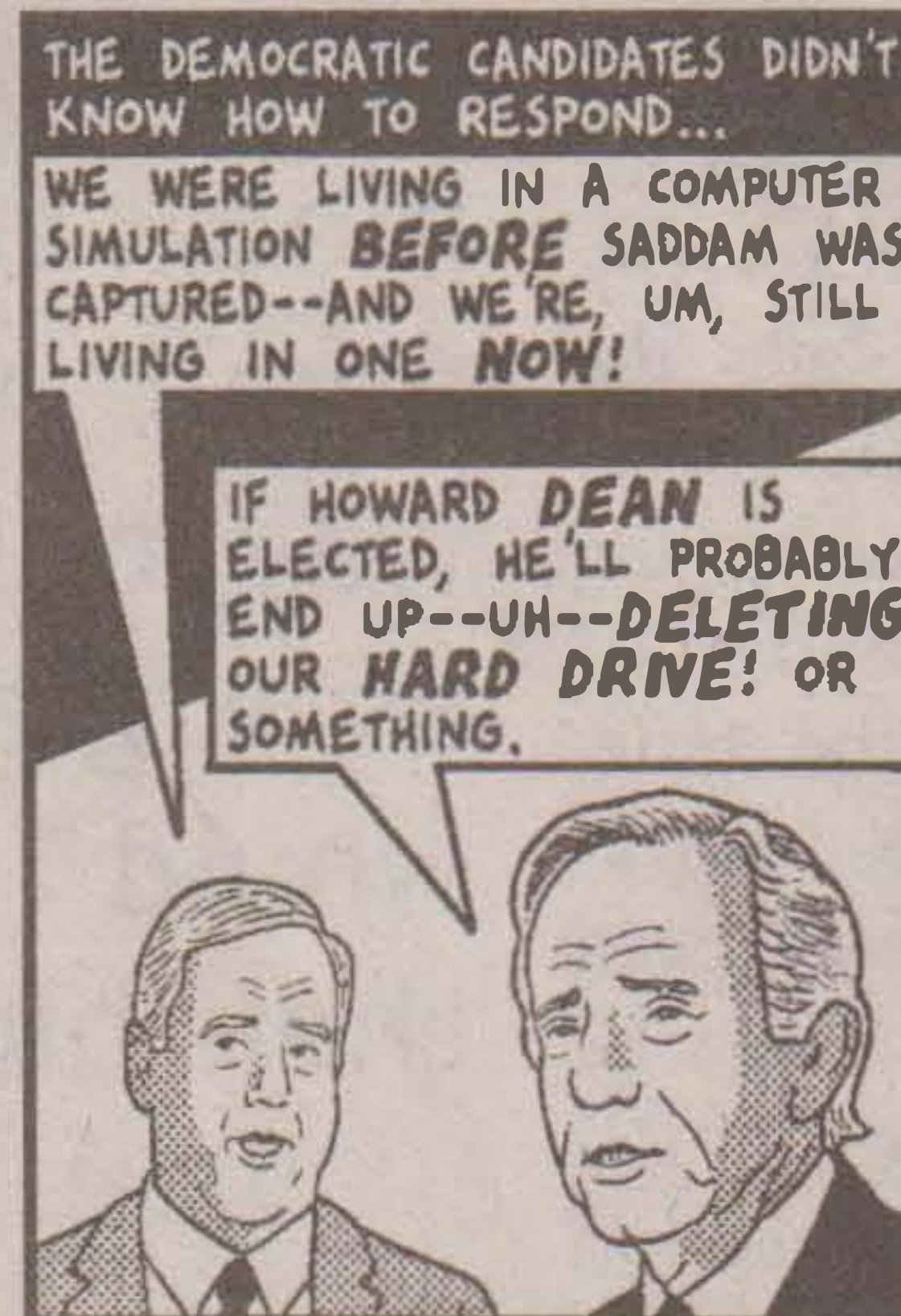
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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# Take this jobless recovery and shove it

**A**mong the bits of good news trumpeted by the White House and the lapdog media in the last month as evidence of a Bush resurgence was word that the jobless rate for December 2003 had declined two tenths of one percent, from 5.9 percent to 5.7 percent. So heartening was this figure

that the president himself described it as “a positive sign that the economy is getting better.”

All of which, unfortunately for both the president and the rest of us, says far more about the ways of lies, damn lies and statistics (not to mention the liars, damn liars and statisticians who use them) than it does about the state of the US job market. In point of fact, the economy in December produced a whopping

1,000 new jobs, with the seeming “positive” result produced by a shrinking of the statistic’s sample base to exclude 309,000 working age men and women who have been unemployed for so long as to no longer be considered active job seekers. If these “missing” workers—along with the 1.95 million others who have fallen off the survey since the beginning of the Bush presidency—were added back into the survey, December jobless numbers would be 8.2 percent, up more than a full percentage point from a corrected 7.1 percent rate for November (statistics from Economic Policy Institute briefing paper #146, 12/19/03, December figures extrapolated).

Few of the people who have taken advantage of various government loans and grants to train or retrain for the “hot jobs of the new millennium” in the last few years could have realized how much a minor in conversational Hindi and hints to the relatives about wanting a one way ticket to Rishikesh as a graduation present would have improved their hirability.

sive deficits, has been the loss of over two million jobs. Bush’s number-one priority for the future? Making the tax cuts, which were passed with sunset clauses, permanent.

There is a certain percentage of the job losses that have occurred in the Bush administration that can only be viewed as both structural and inevitable. The immense changes in technology over the last decade have produced both a positive boon in worker productivity and a consequent displacement of workers whose jobs have been rendered redundant or obsolete. Even given this structural economic

change, however, the Bush administration’s response to the situation has been to make it far worse, offering tax incentives to business that accelerated the process of worker redundancy while offering no response whatsoever to the resulting net job losses. Nor does it help that this new technology, combined with incentives in government tax and trade policies, have created a situation wherein the machines that are replacing American workers are increasingly engineered, programmed and serviced by foreign workers hired by American companies at a fraction of the cost of their onshore counterparts. Indeed, this “jobless” recovery has produced many jobs—IBM, for example, just announced plans to hire over 15,000 new workers. It’s just that very few of the jobs produced are here. Less than a third of these new hires will be working in the United States. The punchline, for this is a joke, if not a very funny one—that 4,500 figure is a few hundred workers fewer than the number of jobs they intend to outsource this year.

The administration’s latest token response to this problem has been a rather tepid proposal for worker retraining. The question not addressed is, retraining for what? Few of the people who have taken advantage of various government loans and grants to train or retrain for the “hot jobs of the new millennium” in the last few years could have realized how much a minor in conversational Hindi and hints to the relatives about wanting a one-way ticket to Rishikesh as a graduation present would have improved their hirability.

At the same time, the proposed “guest worker” immigration program, widely viewed as merely a sop to Mexican President Vicente Fox and the Hispanic community in the US, is in effect a means of bringing offshoring back home. The result of allowing businesses to hire foreign nationals on three-year visas to fill “jobs Americans won’t take” is likely to be the creation of many, many more jobs Americans won’t





take—downward wage pressure, and, thanks to the administration's commitment to deregulation, increasingly unhealthy and unsafe working conditions.

Add to this the Bush Labor Department's campaign against worker overtime (eliminating yet another incentive to hire) and one is left with a picture of an administration committed to the proposition that American businesses should be free to make as much profit as possible unencumbered by such inconveniences as worker safety, labor relations or the provision of living wages, much less tax revenues to the nation. The current condition of the job market is not an accident—it is the calculated end of every economic initiative this administration has made since taking office. Its result—cheap labor abroad, and an intimidated, unempowered work force back home—suits the president's business constituency just fine.

It is also an affront to American values, and a threat to the American way of life, undreamed of by our enemies, one that is unlikely to change as long as this president remains in office. **LV**

**Letter** continued from page 3

world, there will come a day of reckoning when God's justice will bring peace and wholeness to the whole creation. As this vision is given in Psalm 96:12b-13, we read, "Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth." The trees will sing for joy when they are free from the devastation of warfare and the greedy consumption of human will. They will sing for joy in their natural settings, and not in some artificial one also constructed for human gain. I, for one, am in favor of continuing to abide by the Roadless Area Conservation Act, both in Alaska and in the lower 48 states.

The Rev. Robert Dotzel  
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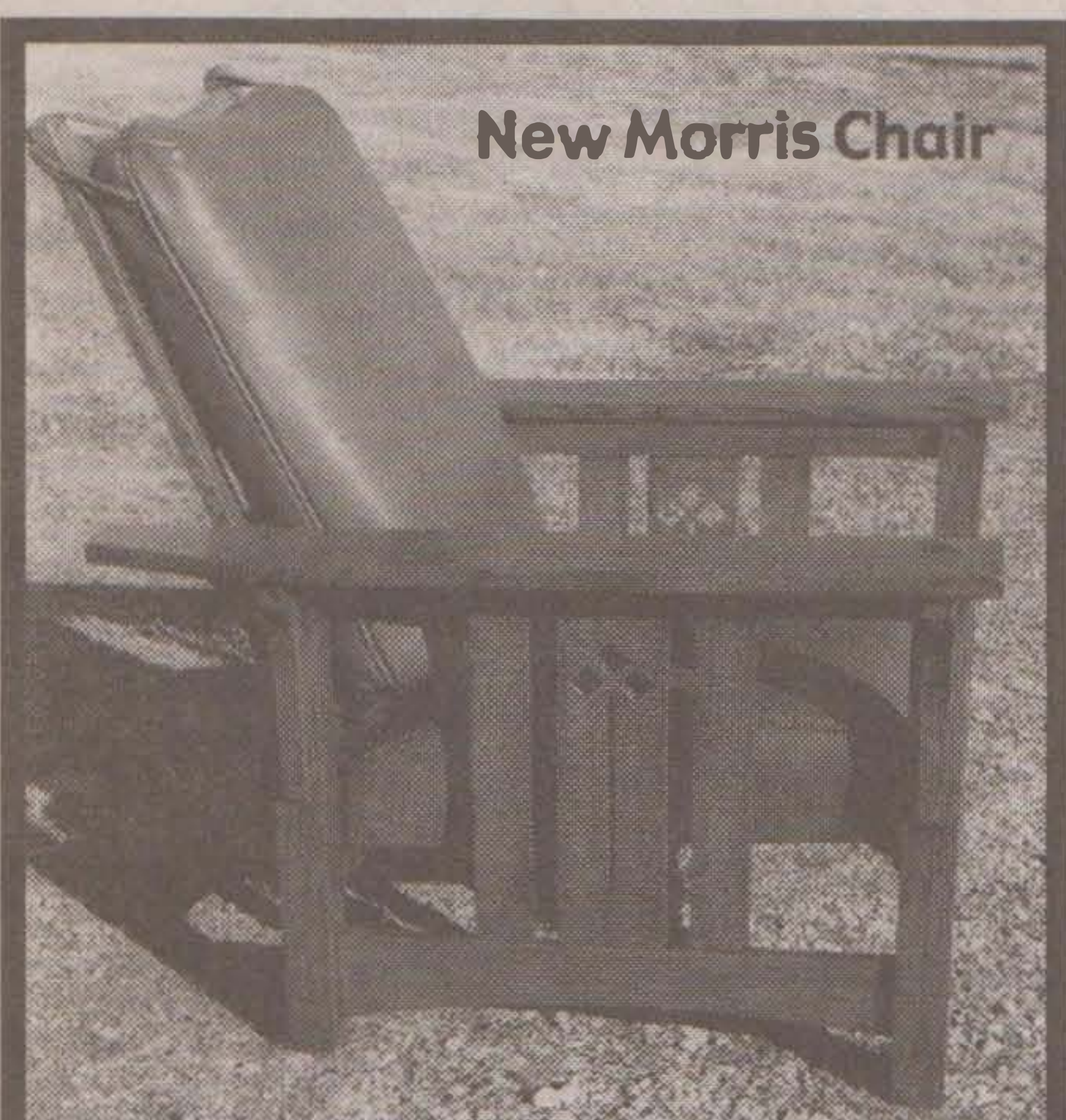
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# From this high up

The hard-faced women who hike Gubong-san do so in chattering groups, covering the narrow width of the trail and moving aside for no American. Despite suffocating humidity—it's late July, and the force of monsoon season is not yet spent—they layer themselves in shiny black pants, long-sleeved shirts and athletic jackets. They wear gloves. They wear visors and drape their heads and faces with towels. I suspect they couldn't see to step aside even if they were inclined. Some even carry on their backs children and grandchildren, who, wide-eyed, swivel their heads to examine the two bent-over, panting foreigners.

Kate and I hike this trail several times a week. For us, this is Korea: dodging the old ladies and dragonflies, listening to the freeway traffic below, indiscreetly watching men indiscreetly relieve themselves on the rocks and bushes. We come each time with the hope of practicing our greetings in Korean and each time return home disappointed that people said "hello" if they said anything at all.

We live jogging distance away, in a small, newly built neighborhood on the margins of a crowded, mid-sized city. The hammering and drilling of construction projects provides the incidental music of our days, while on the night breeze the rot of green garbage bags left on street corners mixes with the salt-water stink of the dozens of seafood restaurants. It has taken us a while to become accustomed to the assault of so many brightly colored signs, to the identical red neon crosses that stand on nearly every commercial rooftop, and to the thump-thump backbeat of the karaoke bar next door.



**DISPATCH  
from  
KOREA**

Brendan  
Wolfe

We wake up most mornings just wanting to escape.

The way to Gubong-san takes us past the towering Gubong Village apartment buildings and along a path that follows a muddy irrigation ditch separating two rice paddies. Workers are sometimes in the paddies, hunched over as if permanently, their faces covered by hats with wide brims. Around them the paddies are such a perfectly unshaded shade of green they don't seem real.

The trail up the mountain is steepest at the start and washed out in places by the summer rains. Wooden recreational equipment and benches litter the first kilometer, leaving the air heavy with the sticky smell of wood preservative. Wooden steps—180 in all—carry us the last bit up to the first peak. Although Kate, as a Maine native, is disgusted by the steps on principle, it's a concession to families for which this flatlander is grateful.

And Gubong-san is full of families, of young people and old, of little girls with puppies and elderly men with parasols. We hike in search of some friendly interaction and find it only intermittently. Koreans rarely acknowledge strangers; so oblivious are hikers to each other that jarring sideswipes rarely merit even a mumble, let alone an excuse me. As foreigners, however, we are singled out, sometimes for a hello but most often for long, unabashed stares. We know enough of the language to make out kids whispering breathlessly to their moms: "Look at the Americans!"

One morning our regular twosome expanded to include Mr. and Mrs. Hur, our bosses at the English-language institute where we teach. Mr. Hur, who is spectacularly fat for a Korean man, has the slightest bit of Mussolini in his gait: He walks wide; he takes up space. The clacking old ladies in their towels and visors broke before him like the Red Sea, and in his enthusiasm he several times stopped hikers to explain to them what must have been self-evident: that we were his guests from America. What else he said I can't even speculate. There were polite smiles all around, some nervous laughter, a few deferential bows.

*continued on page 8*



# Aphrodisiacs for Valentine's Day

There are only two human activities that involve all five senses simultaneously. One is eating. The other is sex. Concurrent metaphors abound, lending credence to the suggestion that the two are very closely related. While people can be described as "hot," "steamy" or even "tasty," food can often be called "seductive," "sinful" or "voluptuous." Food, I contend, is the more important of the two. Don't think so? When is the last time you went a week without eating? Perhaps you see my point.

This month brings us the curious demi-holiday called Valentine's Day. This is a sort of commercialized Day of Atonement when we can attempt to wash away the sins of our previous transgressions and endeavor to reaffirm our love for our chosen mates. It gives some a chance to say, "Despite the tiff about the panties hanging on the shower curtain rod, I honestly can't live without you." Meanwhile, others can say, "I don't mind that you ignored my existence throughout the entire Super Bowl party, I still love you."

In many restaurants, it is one of the busiest days of the year. If you are one of the unfortunate souls who reads these words on the afternoon of the 14th, then suddenly realizes that you've made no plans for the mandatory culinary seduction of your sweetie, you may as well tuck your tail firmly between your legs and go face the inevitable wrath now. You will not be able to get reservations at any good, romantic restaurant. Should've thought of that three weeks ago. But take heart, gentle reader! There is an out, and if you do it right, the one you

love will not only be unaware of your lack of planning acumen, but will likely jump into your arms with a passionate purr.

I may be the only restaurant owner who will tell you that if you want to be truly romantic on Valentine's Day, don't take

Why avocado, you may ask; is it an aphrodisiac? Well, consider the name. It comes from the ancient Aztec word *ahuacuatl*, which means "testicle tree."

your date to a restaurant. Stay home, draw the shades, send the kids to Mom's, put the cat out, and cook! Don't worry, you can do it. Keep it simple and go for the aphrodisiacs.

For the carnivores, build your menu around rare beef, preferably tenderloin. Bloody meat arouses the passions. Sure, oysters are what everyone thinks of, but we are 900 miles from the nearest ocean and trying to keep things simple. Serve the beef grilled or seared (you'll want an internal temperature of about 125-130 degrees Fahrenheit) with a little salt and black pepper, and garnish this with some slices of avocado splashed with balsamic vinegar. Why avocado, you may ask; is it an aphrodisiac? Well, consider the name. It comes from the ancient Aztec word *ahuacuatl*, which means "testicle tree."

All you vegetarians have a lot to choose from in the culinary realm of Aphrodite, but I would suggest keeping your entree centered on mushrooms. An interesting thing, the mushroom. The largest organism ever discovered is a mushroom, though many don't know that because they see only the part that we eat. Most of the organism is underground and can spread for miles. The part we eat is merely the reproductive organ. See the connection? Aphrodisiacs are like that. They rarely have any basis in scientific fact, but often have strong backing in



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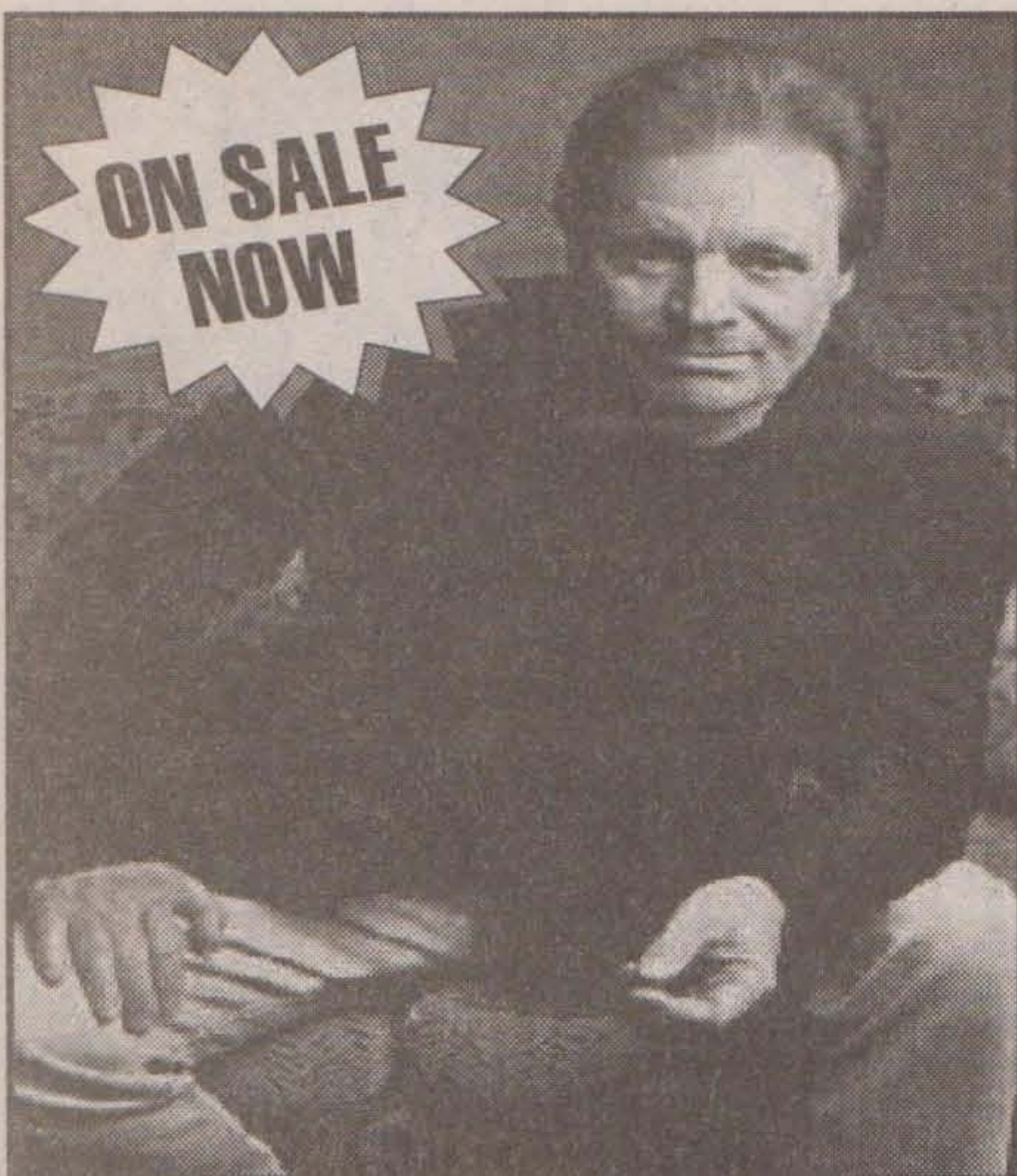
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historical, aesthetic or metaphorical lore. So, sauté your mushrooms, in butter if you can, with garlic and red wine (both aphrodisiacs as well).

Herbivore and carnivore alike can share two of the most important Valentine menu items, and they actually have some science behind their status as sexual enhancements (the food, that is): red wine and chocolate. Of course, the effects of both on mood are legendary. More than that, though, they can actually compliment each other. Get a good

Cabernet Sauvignon like the Simi Landslide, or a Zinfandel like the Peachy Canyon and try them with good dark chocolate from Bochner Chocolates over on Waterfront Drive (354-7900).

Don't be nervous, you can do this. The best food is simple food anyway. A great chef named Churnonsky once said, "Cuisine is when things taste like themselves." True in love as well—be yourself, relax, light a candle, serve a meal and pop a cork. It's what your lover really wants. **LV**

### *Dispatch continued from page 6*

The first peak is a crowded convergence of trails and occupied benches. This morning, as Kate and I sit on a roughly flat rock in wet silence, we watch a grandmother teach a grandfather the basic elements of tai chi. Her motions are studied but unforced, her arms carving out curves that seem almost to express something. Grandfather, however, is clumsy. He doesn't know the language, and his partner teases him gently in her typically whining Korean.

Two dragonflies pause in mid-air, as if holding one another up, and then flit away. The second peak requires more climbing,

but our reward is a breezy pagoda overlooking the city. The air is hazy with exhaust and there's no skyline to speak of, only the tall gray apartment buildings, each an imitation of the other. But anything is beautiful from this high up, and the mountain around us is pleasantly green and leafy, like tightly bunched heads of broccoli.

We collapse onto the wood benches and take in the unintelligible conversation around us. As we watch one man light a cigarette and another unzip and head for the trees, we invariably wonder: Will this ever feel like home? **LV**

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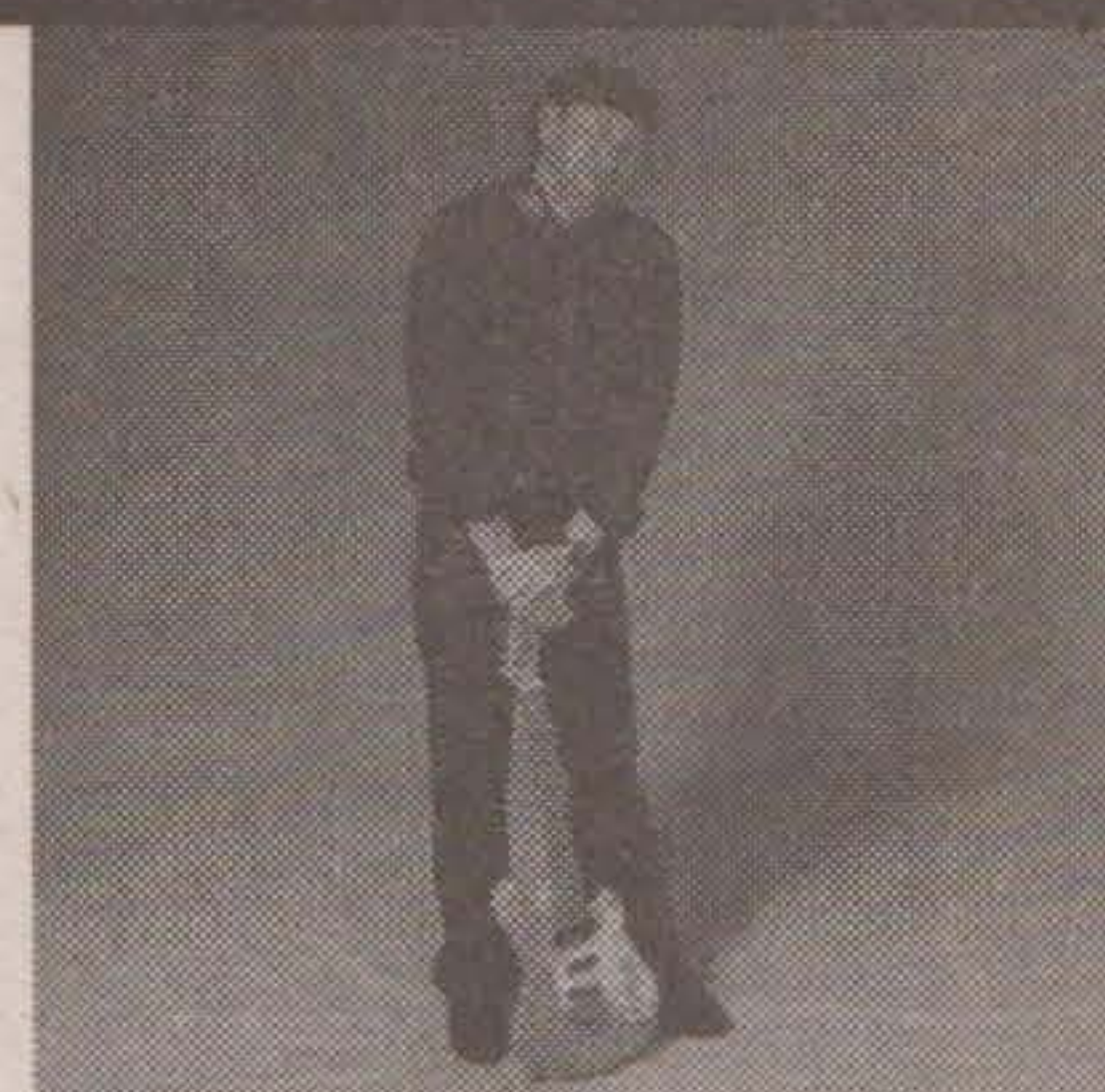
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# Caucus fever



They're over, and people are still talking. What is it about this obscure, old-fashioned process revved up every four years out here in the hinterlands that inspires such fascination and passion? Vicki Krajewski descended into the mysterious caucus world to find out for herself.

Vicki Krajewski

For years there's been a rumbling national fracas about a relatively few Midwesterners with undue influence over the presidential nomination process.

"Most people don't even know where Iowa is," comic Patrice O'Neil said on Comedy Central the day after the caucuses, echoing the bitter sentiments of many.

My mother is jealous of Iowa. She wants her own Illinois caucus. "All we get to do is push a button or punch a card and go home," she laments.

Honestly, why should a bunch of farmers get to rub elbows with presidential candidates and write resolutions that shape the planks of the national party platform?

Why should Brit Hume have to learn the difference between Iowa and Ohio, let alone the fact that you don't pronounce either "s" in Des Moines?

What value does the Iowa caucus process hold locally and nationally?

Nicholas Johnson, former FCC Commissioner, Iowa City School Board member and current UI professor of law, said the caucus system affords "great democratic advantages over a regular primary. Neighbors actually come together...in the most basic process of selecting a candidate and drafting a platform. Our nation is stronger, and better governed, as a result of the Iowa caucuses. It will be for the worse if they are ever abandoned."

What follows is a series of vignettes and reflections, both personal and those of other local participants in the caucus process, which capture the flavors and moods of this most intriguing phenomenon.

## "What a friend we have in Bob Graham"

It was late August and I came home from work to find this message on my an-

swering machine: "Hi, I'm Bob Graham and I'm running for president of the United States of America!" I stood in my kitchen dumbfounded and listened to the rest of the pre-recorded message, which proceeded to inform me that I was invited to a picnic officially entitled "Grillin' with the Grahams."

A week later, I trekked out to a remote shelter at Lake MacBride where I found lots of cars parked and two enormous RVs with tiny satellite dishes attached. There were about 40 people milling around and socializing, some press, and a few muddy Labradors jumping in and out of the lake and chasing a group of waist-high kids around the dock.

Bob Graham, I realized only after I had walked right past him, was the unassuming gray-haired man in a red & white cotton gingham shirt, happily passing out campaign literature and buttons.

Highlights of this event included thoroughly buttered sweet corn on sticks and Bob Graham's tiny, fine-haired granddaughters dancing for the crowd to a pre-recorded song seemingly sung by the late Jim Neighbors, with lyrics to the effect of, "What a friend we have in Bob Graham..."

Graham gave a short speech during which he told the crowd why he was inspired to seek "the bloody pulpit."

But then, and here is the amazing thing, Graham asked anyone from the crowd who felt so inspired to pose any question they wanted to ask—and Graham stayed until the last one was answered.

And to think this becomes the usual state of affairs in Iowa, for a few months, every four years.

I met an excited activist at a meeting of Students for Kucinich in October who boasted of her candidate, "You need to meet him. He's really passionate. He took Jeremy out for ice cream," as Jeremy stood by with unshaven face, nodding and shuf-

fling his blue flip flops across the floor of Wild Bill's coffee shop.

There was Helen Burford, who packed food for families at the Iowa City Crisis Center alongside Gov. Dean; and Jennifer Sherer, a UI graduate student and first-time campaign volunteer, who was surprised to find Kucinich at her own

## Caucus facts

- ★ Iowa caucus gained real momentum and national notoriety in the 1968 McGovern campaign.
- ★ Approximately 120,000 people caucused this year.
- ★ The largest number of caucus candidates was 13 (in the 1988 election).
- ★ Howard Dean spent the most days campaigning in Iowa so far this election cycle, though he spent the fewest days here when he caucused in 2000.
- ★ Caucus became a verb in 1850.

backyard barbeque, which started out as an informal social gathering to talk about the candidate.

Steve Groenewold, an Iowa City computer programmer, caucused for the first time this year, "...because we need to get Bush out of the White House." He said, "...the caucuses give Iowans the chance to meet candidates face-to-face...before the campaign necessarily turns to television ads and made-for-television debates."

Gina Schatteman, UI assistant professor of exercise science, said that speaking to the candidates in smaller venues forces them "...to answer questions in more than sound bites. You also see them at their worst, exhausted and sick of seeing people. From that, you get a much better sense of what they are really like as a



person...."

The caucuses are like a Brigadoon of national relevance and attention for the Midwest. Really, to win national coverage otherwise, we need to produce a two-headed pig with a horrible disease that has the potential of leaking into the food chain.

### Through wind and hail and sleet

On Caucus Eve this year, I found myself at the Iowa Memorial Union on the outskirts of a roomful of fervent Dean supporters, many of whom had on bright orange stocking caps, not just because the wind-chill was a biting 20-degrees below zero, but also because they had dubbed

themselves "Stormers," out-of-staters here to campaign for Dean.

These people stayed in "winterized campsites" and walked door to door in weather so cold it almost sent me (and my hearty Iowan husband) running back to our car after 30 seconds.

When we arrived at the IMU, a woman from Pittsburgh dazedly told me she "was sitting down because she didn't feel so good" after being outside campaigning for so long.

Inside the ballroom, a middle-aged woman with big eyes and straight, bobbed hair was eager to tell me how she'd just

moved back to Iowa from Los Angeles after 20 years. She stood near the press section smiling politely through the Joan Jett music, trying to convince me to vote for Dean.

Nationally and locally, people got involved with the caucus campaigns in innumerable ways.

Burford described how her "eyes and ears turned to every debate."

"I carried the large 'D' [for Dean] in the homecoming parade," she said. "There were countless nights on the phone talking to neighbors and convincing them that it was important to caucus."

Groenewold took time off work to see John Edwards speak in Cedar Rapids. Schatteman made phone calls for Kucinich and donated food to several events.

Jeffrey Charis-Carlson, a Kucinich supporter and UI Ph.D. candidate in English, pointed out that the actual caucuses are over in three hours.

Still, he said people who participate become more invested and active in the larger political process: "I've watched a number of my friends and family...who were nominally politically minded before become extremely well-versed in the debates and the issues at hand."

Groenewold said the same after participating in his first caucus: "I have more of a vested interest in the campaigns and the election now than I did before the caucus.... I'll have played a part, however small it is, in what takes place in Boston in July."

The "caucus effect" seems strangely universal for those who participate. When I asked people about their experiences, I found they really wanted to tell their caucus stories.

It is a rare opportunity to share a nationally significant experience on a personal level. Conversations spontaneously erupt at bars among friends. It's like that impulse to tell others "what you were doing when Kennedy got shot" or "what you felt like when the WTC fell," only it's a positive, intellectual sharing. I can't think of anything else like it.

### On the ground

When I arrived at my caucus in the basement of the Sharon Center Methodist Church (hidden on a dark, pothole-ridden gravel road far off the beaten path in rural Johnson County), Don and Anita Sehr, a retired couple, were sitting behind a folding table set up on the green-painted concrete floor, unfurling yards of voter registration records.

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The small room had a kitchen pass-through at the rear, a makeshift altar at the front and four rows of heavy wooden pews. You could smell the ghosts of pot-lucks past.

People filtered into the church basement with literature and signs for their candidates.

Barbara Immermann, an enthusiastic Kerry supporter with bobbed gray hair offered plates of homemade cookies (arranged with care on a tableful of Kerry literature and shredded red, white and blue construction paper) to the gathering crowd.

George Floss walked in, carrying a large stack of yellow Dick Gephardt posters and wearing a black turtleneck, a yellow v-neck sweater and a hound's-tooth blazer with khaki pants and giant work boots.

He walked quietly around the room taping up the posters with his wife, Alice. Soon, the meeting was called to order and my husband unwittingly volunteered to be the "master of ceremonies," so-to-speak, for the evening. He was handed a poster of numbered step-by-step instructions on how to conduct the caucus and a booklet of instructions, from which he read aloud.

We found out our caucus was allotted just one delegate, which meant we had to decide by a majority written vote on one candidate.

Nervous laughs and furtive glances ensued as well as some friendly protestations that sounded like something from the *Music Man*.

Other precincts experienced this same uncomfortable realization. Jeffrey Charis-Carlson was frustrated by the task of electing only two delegates to represent the 125 people that showed up at his precinct. "That makes for a very non-representative view of the support for the various campaigns," he said. "But, hey, that's the caucus."

Our meeting proceeded with marvelous informality—a bunch of Iowans sitting in a church basement with homemade cookies, leftover Christmas decorations and the knowledge that Fox News, CNN, the BBC and Al Jazeera were all waiting to see what we thought of the people who had been parading through our state, offering hot dogs and health care. Somehow I found myself acting as the secretary (probably because I was already taking notes).

Supporters spoke on behalf of their candidates. At 30-something, John Ingemeyer, the first volunteer, was one of the youngest attendees. He began with

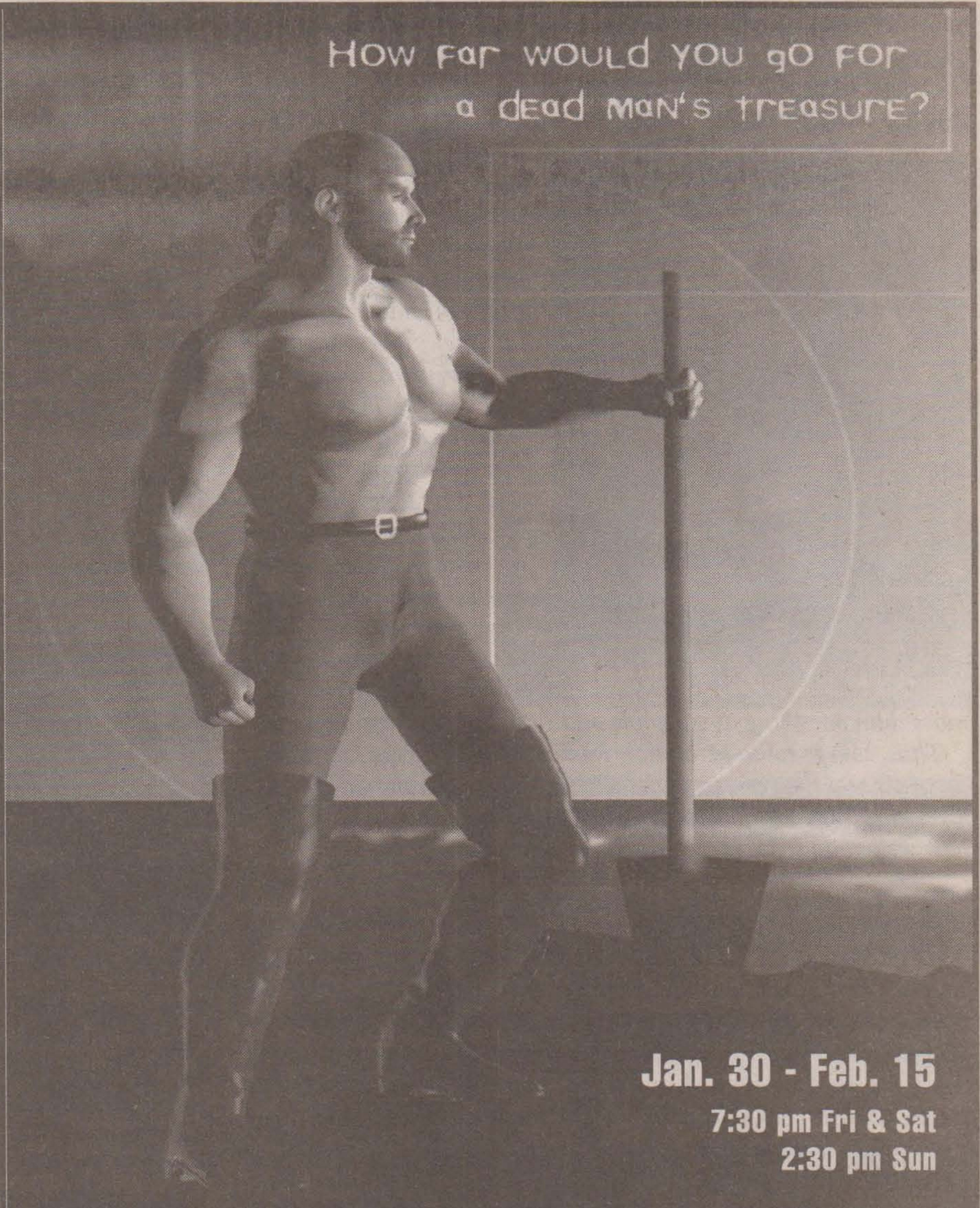
The caucuses are like a Brigadoon of national relevance and attention for the Midwest. Really, to win national coverage otherwise, we need to produce a two-headed pig with a horrible disease that has the potential of leaking into the food chain.

a refrain that would turn into a chorus before the meeting adjourned: "There are four great nominees running...but who is most likely going to beat Bush?" He said Edwards.

Next, Immermann was pressed to speak on behalf of John Kerry. She bristled at the idea of public speak-

ing, then obliged her friends and dutifully read from a campaign letter. George Floss provided a lot of informed information on Gephardt's voting record (against NAFTA, for ethanol). He'd clearly done a lot of thoughtful reading and research.

*continued on page 21*



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# The KRUI Top 40 of 2003

List of favorite releases confirms and confounds college radio stereotypes.

Marcelo Mena

*Editor's note: Everybody loves year-end lists, so we thought we'd get into the act with a little help from our favorite radio station, KRUI. Thirteen DJs there combined forces and created a ranking of their 160 top releases of 2003. We print their top 40 below.*

*College radio can be as diverse as the eclectic bunch of volunteering student DJs that help determine a station's programming, or as*



Too black? Jay-Z

*homogenized as those same kids. One might stereotype the "College Radio Sound" as the kind of brainy, quirky stuff invented by REM in the '80s, advanced by Pavement in the '90s and re-formatted by Radiohead in the '00s (an oversimplification, yes, and no coherent genre, for sure, but a purview of white, young, male intellectuals nonetheless). Often, though, as is the case with equalitarian, freeform enterprises, it's*

*more than one thing: predictable and suprising at the same time.*

*Thus, college radio perennials Radiohead and Yo La Tengo lodge themselves as the very top of the KRUI list, while strong showings by Ted Leo & the Pharamacists, the Jayhawks, Outkast, and Jay-Z show how well-rounded KRUI and college radio can be.*

2003 was marked by many groups featuring textured electronics with an indie-at-heart sound, such as The Postal Service, Erlend Oye, The Notwist, and The Sea and Cake (these last two graced Iowa in two memorable shows). The Notwist, my personal favorite, is a German group from the record label Morr Music. Markus Acher and Martin Gretschnann (AKA Console) combine their talents, one from a traditional sonic guitar school, and the other a master of electronics, beats and textures. They create some chaotic songs in which Acher's voice leads to calmness. Their album, *Neon Golden*, was recorded in 24 months, and the US release took yet another year. Despite that, it was worth the wait.

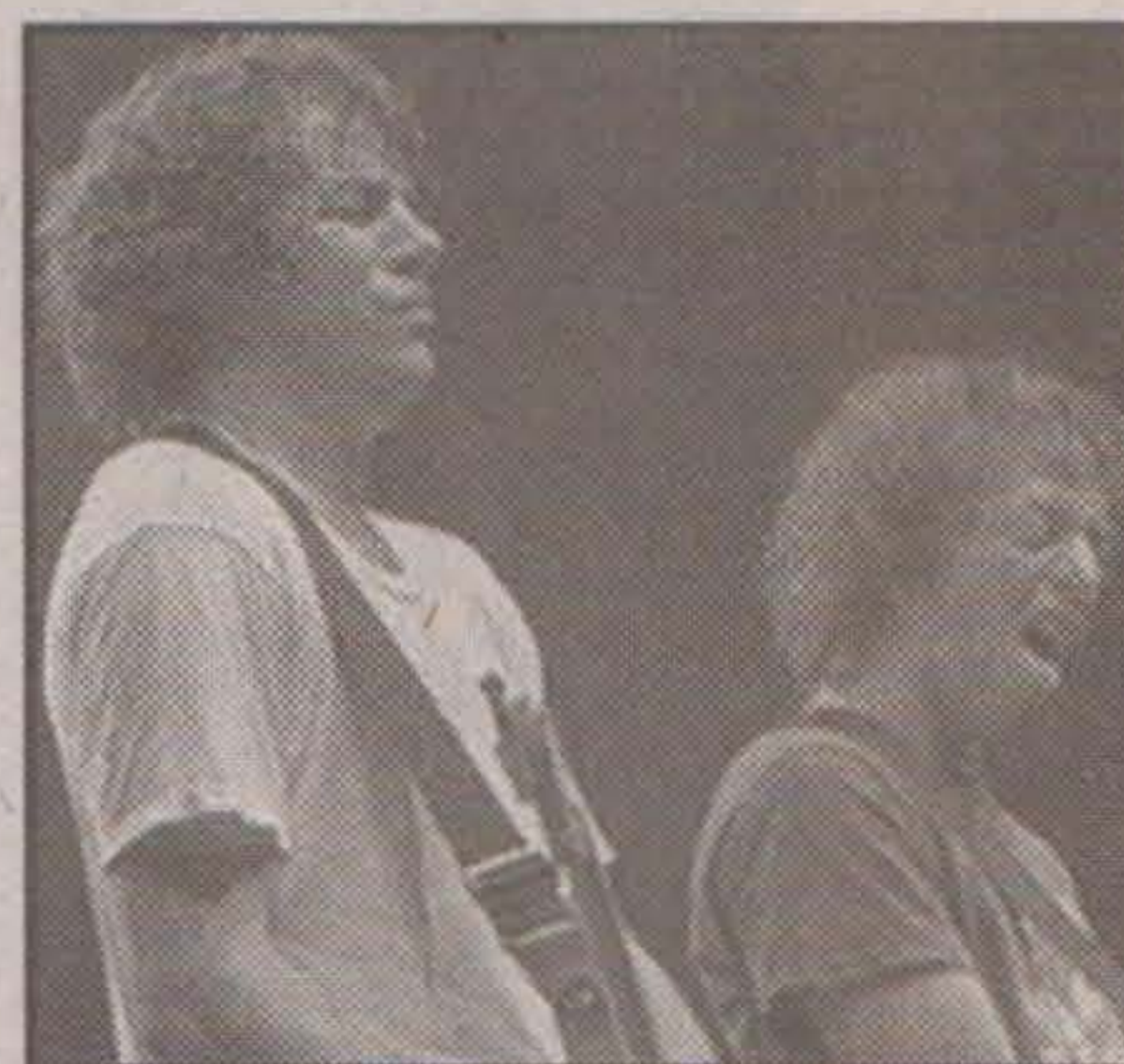
There are many surprises here, such as Ted Leo's *Hearts of Oak*. Leo, too, graced our state with a live appearance in Ames. The band's sound nods to the Clash and Elvis Costello, while still bringing freshness and youth to the mix. Outkast, with their dual album, gave us hope for the future of the Top 40 with their oddball single, "Hey Ya."

Radiohead came back with another obscure album with vision. Are we ever going to forgive them for not putting out another single we can sing along to? Of course. That's why they made it to the top of our ranking. Yo La Tengo, indie veterans from Hoboken who played for two-and-a-half hours in Grinnell last year, gave us their latest installment of their ever-softer sound. All who were at that show can confirm that they compensate for this calmness with the intensity of their live performance. Prefuse 73's *One Word Extinguisher* was a hybrid electronic vs. hip-hop masterpiece released by Warp that showed this artist, officially known as Scott Herren, as a leader in the future of this new genre. It is recommended that this record be enjoyed with headphones. (Smog's release, *Supper*, was an amazingly sincere album that showcased Bill Callahan's inner inadequacies. This record features him singing with Cynthia Dall, a Drag City labelmate.

Why is White Stripes in the ranking, and not the Strokes? I really don't know, but it could be that the Strokes' Protocols garage rock sound did not sit well with our listmakers. Anyway, I doubt you will first hear about the Strokes from this list.

Considering that nine of the 40 artists that appear on this list played in Iowa City, Grinnell or Ames, maybe we are closer to the heart of the college music scene than we think. This also suggests that live performance may have had a bearing on who got a more generous consideration by our listmakers. (Likewise, the relatively rare inclusion of a local band in the Top 40—Ten Grand—might be have more to do with the proximity of the band's irresistible energy than reasons of sentiment.) We must thank our local venues and promoters—The Green Room, Gabe's Oasis, Scope, and The Mill—for their efforts, and taking a risk to place Iowa City's music scene where it belongs.

Everybody's got an opinion about KRUI. Look into this semester's schedule at [www.krui.org](http://www.krui.org) and you'll observe KRUI's commitment toward diversity in music. We've got two ethnic alternative music shows, three electronic music shows, two hip-hop shows, one avant-garde show, three oldies shows, and a folk music show, along with our other regular rotation DJs who will continue to bring you the best and the newest in music. After two years in college radio, I've concluded that there's always an amazing band you've never heard of. LV



College Dweebs, Ween

Marcelo Mena co-hosts KRUI's *Coupe de Style*, Mondays, 7-9pm.



# KRUI Top 40 of 2003

1. Radiohead, *Hail to the Thief*, Capitol
2. Yo La Tengo, *Summer Sun*, Matador
3. Ted Leo & the Phramacists, *Hearts of Oak*, Lookout
4. Postal Service, *Give Up*, Sub Pop
5. Outkast, *Speakerboxxx/The Love Below*, Arista
6. Jayhawks, *Rainy Day Music*, American
7. The Notwist, *Neon Golden*, Domino
8. Smog, *Supper*, Drag City
9. Prefuse 73, *One Word Extinguisher*, Warp
10. Do Make Say Think, *Winter Hymn Country Hymn Secret Hymn*, Constellation
11. Cat Power, *You are Free*, Matador
12. Cursive, *The Ugly Organ*, Saddle Creek
13. Atmosphere, *Seven's Travel*, Rhymesayers
14. White Stripes, *Elephant*, V2
15. The Sea and Cake, *One Bedroom*, Drag City
16. The Mars Volta, *Deloused in the Comatorium*, Gold Standard
17. Belle and Sebastian, *Dear Catastrophe Waitress*, Sanctuary
18. Broadcast, *Ha Ha Sound*, Warp
19. Sun Kil Moon, *Ghosts of the Great Highway*, Jet Set
20. Menomena, *I am Fun Blame Monster*, Muuuahaha
21. Spiritualized, *Amazing Grace*, Sanctuary
22. Brother Ali, *Shadows of the Sun*, Rhymesayers
23. David Dondero, *The Transient*, Future Farmer
24. Blood Brothers, *Burn Piano Island Burn*, Artist Direct
25. Ten Grand, *This is the Way to Rule*, Southern
26. Buck 65, *Talkin Honky Blues*, Warner Canada
27. Ween, *Quebec*, Sanctuary
28. Themselves, *The No Music of Aiffs*, Anticon
29. Kid Koala, *Some of My Best Friends are DJ's*, Ninja Tune
30. Jay-Z, *The Black Album*, Roc-a-fella
31. The Microphones, *Mount Eerie*, K
32. The Decemberists, *Her Majesty the Decemberists*, Killrockstars
33. Van Morrison, *What's Wrong with this Picture*, Blue Note
34. Black Eyes, *Black Eyes*, Dischord
35. The Long Winters, *When I Pretend to Fall*, Barsuk
36. Mates of State, *Team Boo*, Polyvinyl
37. Sightings, *Absolutes*, Load
38. The Fiery Furnaces, *Gallowsbird's Bark*, Sanctuary
39. Canibus, *Rip the Jacker*, Babygrande
40. Stew, *Something Deeper than these Changes*, Smile

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# { INSERT CULPRIT OF THE HOUR } killed the music industry

**L**ast year, the music industry cried wolf again, claiming the billions of music files traded on the Internet were destroying their business. However, this ignored the fact that the music industry actually did better than most other industries during the nadir of a recession. Even if one-tenth of the billions of MP3s traded last year meant one less CD sale, the major labels should have seen negative numbers; instead, in 2003 US music sales were down only 3 percent and UK music sales were up 8 percent.

prairie



Kembrew  
McLeod

The misplaced anxieties of the recording industry are nothing new. Every time a new technology has been introduced, copyright owners have hysterically and hyperbolically responded the same way. Even the phonograph was supposed to destroy the music industry at the beginning of the 20th century. At the time, the music industry was synonymous with sheet music publishing. Of course, there was a reorganization of the music industry, but music itself didn't suffer—and, for that matter, the industry got much, much bigger. Radio was another doomsday device because, well, if people don't have to pay for the music they hear, why would they go out and purchase records? The answer soon became obvious: The more people heard certain songs for free, the more likely they would buy a familiar record.

More recently, home cassette taping was going to spell the end of the music industry. In the early 1980s, when the music industry slumped after its disco-and-cocaine-fueled high, record companies blamed tape recorders, and the people who used them. They even came up with a bumper sticker-ready slogan, "Home Taping is Killing Music." Record company execs feared that this new technology would raise an entire generation

of people who believed they didn't have to pay for music. "Never before"—a phrase that pops up frequently in these debates—did so many music fans have the ability to copy music themselves. So, at the urging of the major labels, Congress initiated a study of home taping, but the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) issued a report that contradicted many of the industry's claims.

The OTA report stated that, among other things, home tapers bought more records than non-tapers and, conversely, the majority of non-tapers don't listen to or purchase pre-recorded music. The only study of home taping initiated by a record company, Warner Brothers Records, also concluded that there is a direct correlation between how much you tape and how much you buy.

This also jibes with the experience of local musician Dave Zollo. A few weeks after the birth of his son, Rocco, I dropped by Dave's house to talk about life, kids, music and, as the conversation wore on, copyright law. I admit to him that I obviously have no problem making mix CDs of other people's music, but when it comes to Dave's records, I've felt uncomfortable doing so. He laughs and says he appreciates my sensitivity. But, Dave says, "I've always made mix tapes. It's the idea that you actually become involved with the art and become an artist, in a way. And any time someone is actually involved, it makes them a part of the experience." One of the ways he courted his wife, Beth, was to make her tapes.

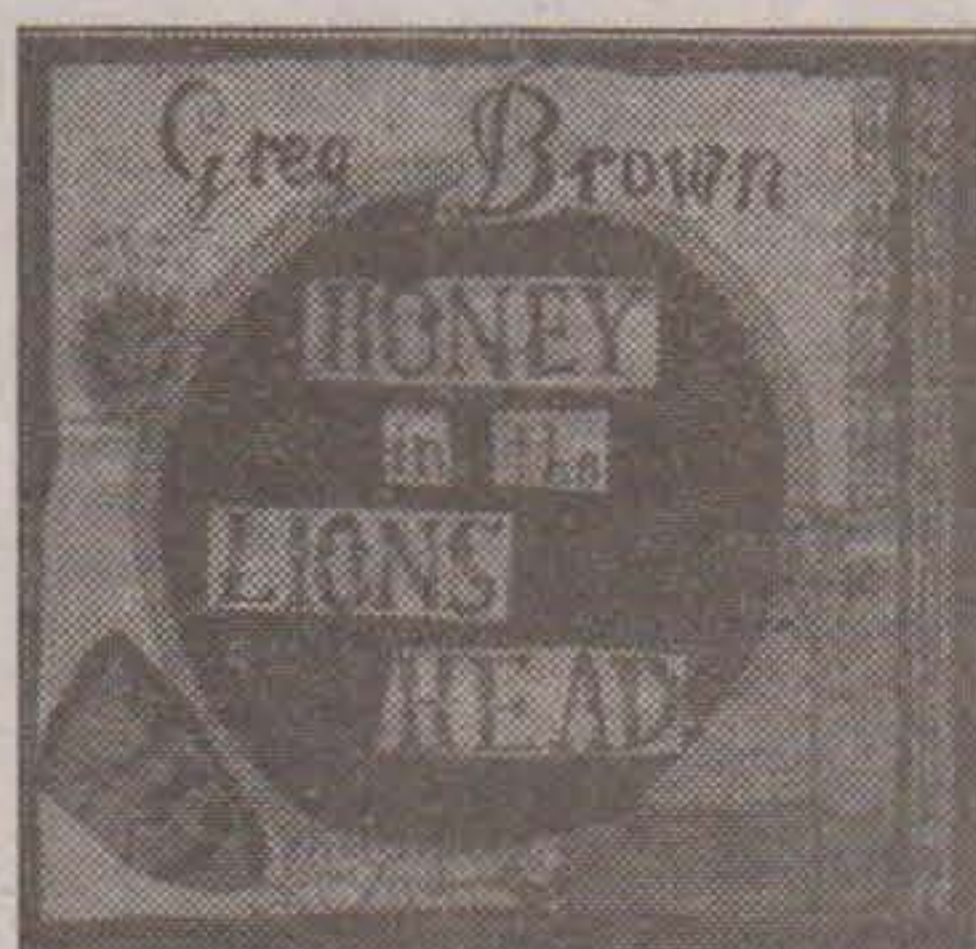
"When I was young," says musician and record producer Thom Monahan, "the way that I got into bands was people making me tapes. You know, file sharing, just in a different way. I had tons of tapes, and I bought records of bands because people gave me a song." Much like Zollo, Monahan has spent most of his adult life as a musician. The last time I saw him, the subject turned to the current state of the music industry and how bands like his, the Pernice Brothers, are doing in these uncertain times. I'm not surprised to find that, when it comes to his music, Thom has no problem with file trading—a term I notice he uses interchangeably with tape trading. For him, it's the same thing. During the same time when

major label CDs sales declined, according to Neilson/Soundscan each Pernice Brothers album since their 1998 debut sold more than its predecessor, something that's true of similar artists.

Even the noodly-doodly Dave Matthews Band developed its initial fan base by encouraging people to record their shows and give the tapes to friends. This built a word-of-mouth following in the early 1990s that expanded the group's reach from Charlottesville, Virg., to the southeastern tour circuit and beyond. Matthews was just another local musician when I worked at Plan 9 Records there during the first half of the 1990s. One day, he came into the record store, and from behind the raised checkout counter I questioned him about why he allowed his music to be copied and traded. I mean, didn't he care about copyright infringement? "You work at a record store," he said in his easygoing tone, "and I'm sure you make mix tapes for friends. You're probably selecting songs that you think are good, or songs you think a friend would like. I mean, how else are they going to hear about a band and possibly buy the whole record unless they're exposed to the music?" He had a point. I'm embarrassed to admit that even though I'd spent most of my young life immersed in music, I hadn't quite thought of it in that way—until Dave Matthews pointed it out to me.

"So, no," Matthews told me, "I don't think it's the same thing as stealing. The whole tape scene has served us well. We can't get on mainstream radio, and who knows if we ever will."—little did he know!—"So, it's a way of getting word out about the band, and with each year there are more tapes and bigger audiences." The popularity of the Dave Matthews Band rose through the late-1990s, and so did the Internet, which made this kind of music swapping easier and more efficient. In many ways, the band still benefits from the culture of trading—online and off—because it's part of what maintains the cohesiveness of their fan base. Even Metallica, in their formative years, directly benefited from the unauthorized trading of their tapes, an irony that would rear its ugly head years later... **LV**





**Greg Brown**  
***Honey in the Lions Head***  
**Trailer**

I first heard Greg Brown at the dedication of the Iowa City Pedestrian Mall. Plunked

down on the edge of a railroad tie planter, he was singing his song "44 and 66," absolutely at ease. Brown let that obtuse tale of two numbers tell itself, as much a spectator as we were. Even when he invests a song with deep emotion, it's the song's sentiment, not his. He's the UPS man bringing it to you, not the great artist dropping pearls. Brown himself remains private and a bit aloof. As Robert DeNiro is said to disappear into a movie role, Brown disappears into the songs.

For *Honey in the Lions Head*, Brown gathers together a nosegay of traditional songs, but by the time he's done, they're all Greg Brown songs. He's done here what folk musicians have always done: change lyrics, melodies and chords to suit themselves. Either he grew up hearing versions of these songs peculiar to Southeast Iowa, or the songs have mutated under his hands over the 30-odd years he's been playing them. Or perhaps, like a tailor, he's altered them to custom-fit his voice.

On "Who Killed Cock Robin," Brown's raspy bass rumble brings back the sadness and menace that can bleed out of a murder ballad with a million repetitions. "Old Smokey," a song that wore out its welcome long ago, gets a completely new lyric and melody. Brown's version has both a feckless charm and a dark ambiguity. What was a tale of unrequited love turns into an ambiguously menacing kiss-off: "My horse isn't hungry and he won't eat your hay/So fair thee well darling/I'll feed on the way."

The one Brown original, "Ain't No One Like You," sounds as much like a traditional song as the others. The banjo accompaniment by Bob Black and background vocals by Brown's daughter, Constie, are as spare

as possible—but no sparer—to support Brown's lyric. Black's banjo is exquisitely subtle, and his deft dynamics echo the rise and fall of Brown's voice. It's also worth noting that the record was recorded locally, is being released on Trailer Records and features other locals, Rick Cicalo, acoustic bass; Bo Ramsey, guitar; Al Murphy, fiddle; Pieta Brown and Iris Dement, background vocals, and Keith Dempster, harmonica.

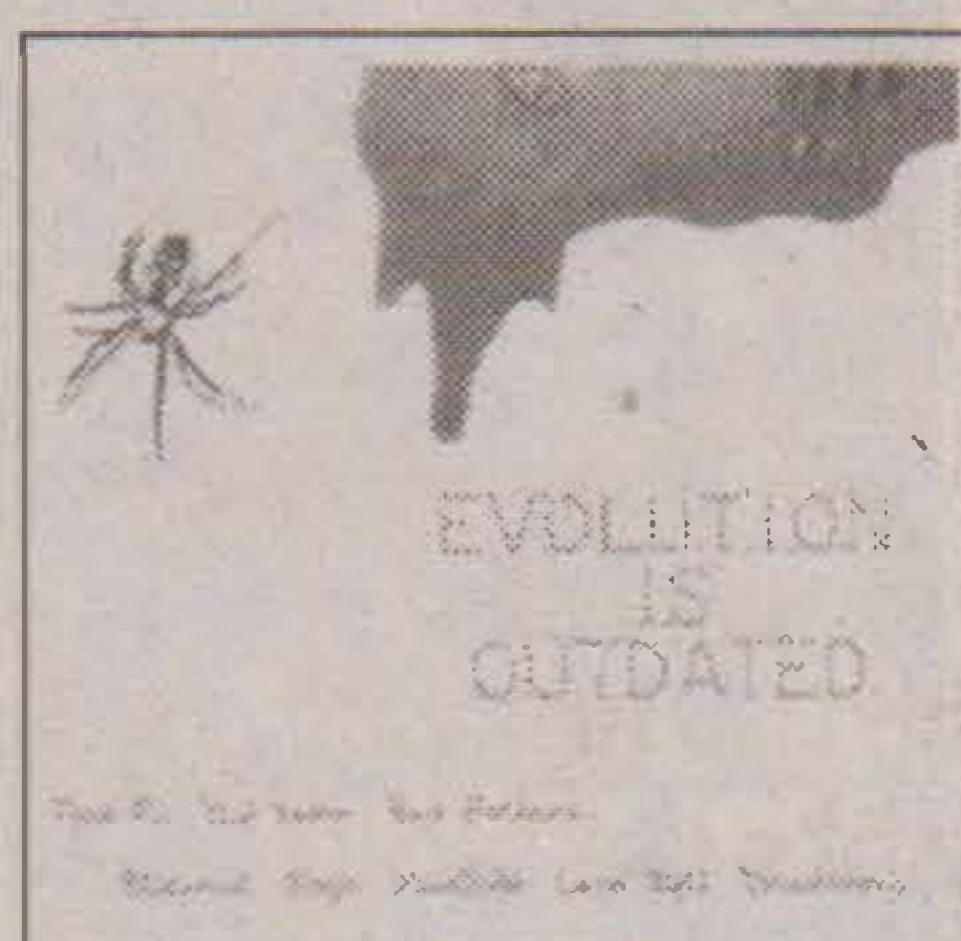
The most striking thing about *Honey in the Lions Head* is the way Brown and his collaborators manage to find the proper tone in each song. Brown's vocal quirks—occasionally distracting on earlier recordings—are absent. He's relaxed enough to do the job without them. The instrumental performances are not restrained; they're sufficient; illustrating the old saying, "Enough is as much as a feast." The whole ensemble is able to disappear into the songs. The real mystery of folk songs is the way they're changed by, and change, the people that play them. They're a thread connecting the past with the present, and on *Honey in the Lions Head*, they're also very much alive in the current moment.

Kent Williams

**Bad Fathers and Tack Fu**  
***Evolution is Outdated***

**Rosemary Records**

Creation scientists have long contended that the arguments for evolution are outdated and often illogical. These religious zealots believe that modern scientific theory is full of contradictions, using false evidence



to hypothesize a godless order of the universe where humans have descended from apes. At first, the title of local hip-hop collaborators Bad Fathers and Tack Fu's new three-song disc seems ironic, mocking the tunnel vision of the oft-berated creation scientists. But perhaps a deeper analy-

sis is needed. After all, these musicians and their guests—who include DJ Vadim, Blueprint, Illogic, Man Child, Lord 360, and Desdmona—are truly creation scientists of a higher order. They experiment in the recording studio with words, beats and rhythms. As Ralph Waldo Emerson noted more than 100 years ago, "Language is fossil poetry." The Bad Fathers and Tack Fu break down language to show its vestigial roots as sound.

"Beat versus rhyme, rhyme versus beat," intones Man Child at the beginning of "Enter Dependents," a line that suggests the essential connections between the sound and meaning of words and music.

The track features several fast-paced raps by various artists (it's hard to know by the liner notes who is rapping when) over a Latin-tinged sampled beat (it sounds like an old riff by War). The lyrics veer from exclamations like "pig fucker" to parody ("I got a fetish for the thought of not remembering my name")—which pokes fun at Eminem's famous line, "My name is..."—to the strange ("as simple as masticating permissions.") The point becomes clearer as the song continues: Beat and rhythm are both crucial and interdependent (or as the rap itself says, "each is individual until at last they meet") for a densely packed three minutes and 21 seconds.

The other two cuts share many of the same qualities of creative wordplay, heavy beats and sonic experimentation. Catchy phrases abound—"your metaphors made a fist in my circle," "you could stand upon my shoulders, but there ain't no common ground," "it's so much harder to be a poet in the daylight, than it is to sink words into the moon night," etc. The musical snippets and odd tempos consistently add tension and drama to the mix. This may not be rocket science, but these creators make their own inventions by going back to the basics of words and sounds. Note: The vinyl version includes a couple instrumental versions of these songs.

Steve Horowitz

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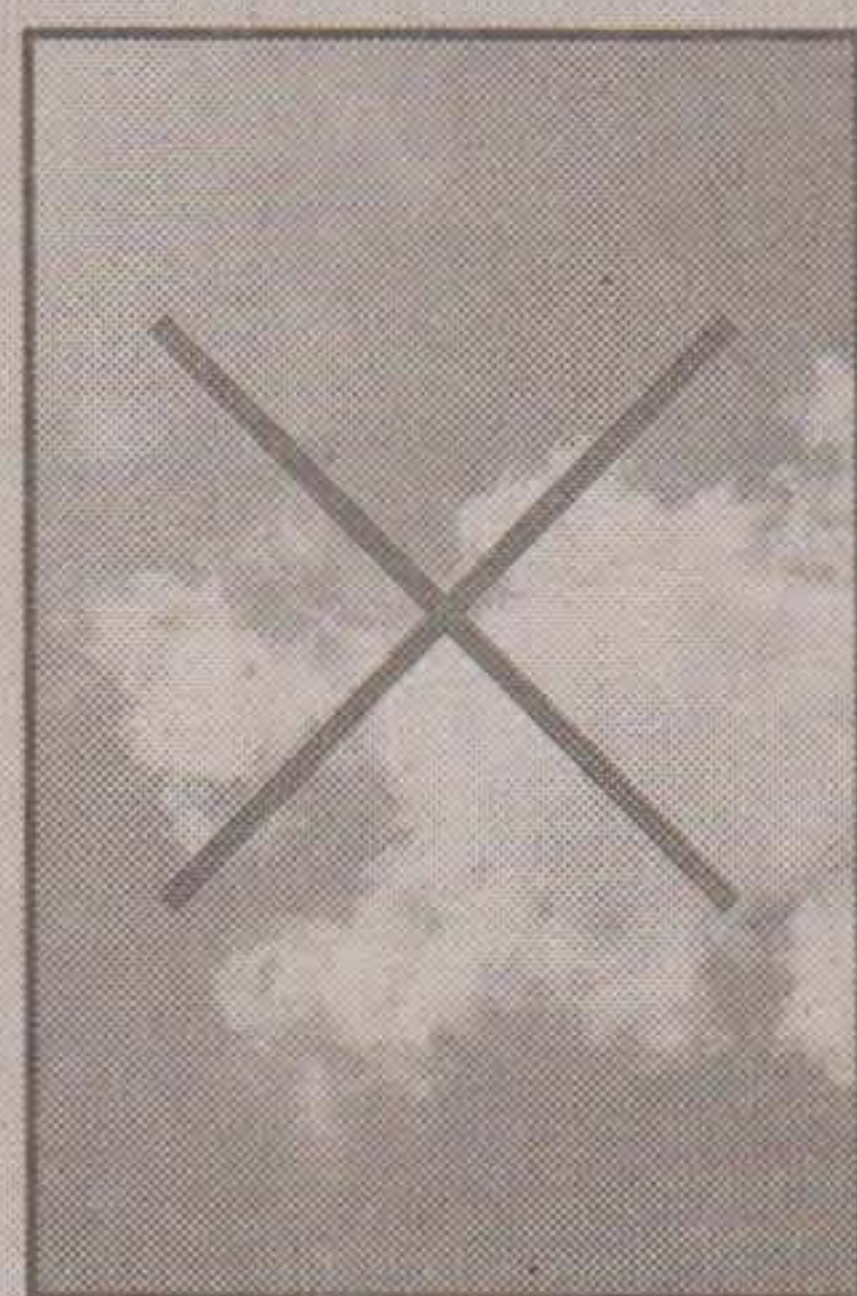
**351-1073**



# A-LIST

## Peter Manseau and Jeff Sharlet

Prairie Lights • Monday, Feb 2



Peter Manseau and Jeff Sharlet went on a spiritual quest of sorts, setting out on a road trip across America in search of Buddhas and the people who meet them. The Buddha in this case being the one that ninth-century sage Lin Chi said you should kill if you ever meet—because he'll just be a reflection of your unexamined beliefs and desires, silly. The two end up writing about everything from storm chasers hunting for meaning in tornadoes to gangbangers inking God on their bodies as protection from bullets. They also called upon some of today's most intriguing writers to remodel books of the Bible: Rick Moody recasts Jonah as a modern-day gay Jewish man living in Queens. A.L. Kennedy takes on "Genesis," April Reynolds "Samuel," Peter Trachtenberg "Job," and Haven Kimmel "Revelation." Should be fun. Lightning rods are optional. 15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2681.

## February music picks

**Savage Aural Hotbed, Green Room, Feb. 6**

Minneapolis' Savage Aural Hotbed have been around since 1986, playing oil drums, electric saws and hubcaps. A ton more extreme than Stomp and its ilk, SAH take inspiration from Japanese Taiko drumming, Industrial and—believe it or not—Minimalism. Primal music for the thinking person, though not for the faint of heart.

**Wheat, The Mill, Feb. 10**

Dream-pop wizards, Wheat really hit their stride with 1999's *Hope and Adams*, produced by Flaming Lips/Mercury Rev King Midas knob-twiddler Dave Fridmann. Last year they finally released a follow-up, *Per Second, Per Second, Per Second...Every Second*, with Fridmann back at the helm—and it's mountains of marshmallow love all over again. Wheat just didn't get their due in a year that saw critics go sappy over fellow shoe-gazers Death Cab for Cutie. Should be interesting to hear how they manage live.

**Andre Williams, Gabes, Feb. 20**

R&B legend Andre "Mr. Rhythm" Williams recently teamed up with the Sadies on *Red Dirt*, a collection of country-soul that has to be heard to be believed. Covers of the Bottle Rockets and Lefty Frizzell butt heads with originals like "Weapon of Mass Destruction" and "My Sister Stole My Woman." Andre Williams is the real thing, dressed up in alt-country cool or not.

# CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free, on a space-available basis. Mail entries to Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, Iowa 52244 or email [little-village@usa.net](mailto:little-village@usa.net)

## ART/EXHIBITS

### AKAR

4 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 351-1227

Guillermo Cuellar, Venezuela, February.

### Arts Iowa City/The Galleries Downtown

218 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 337-7447

UI Metalsmithing and Jewelry Programming fund-raising exhibition and sale, Feb. 6-8; opening reception Feb 6, 5-8pm • Elizabeth Shriver and Doug Russell, paintings, ceramics and sculpture, Feb. 13-March 14; opening reception Feb. 13, 5-8pm.

### Brucemore

2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375

*Building a Community One Brick at a Time*, through May 1.

### Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

*Villa to Grave: Roman Art and Life*, 150 Roman objects—sculpture, frescoes, jewelry, furniture, coins and other decorative art objects—displayed in a recreated Roman architectural setting, through Aug. 25, 2005 • *Pig Latin: Illustrations by Arthur Geisert*, through Feb. 15 • *Goya to Gauguin: 19th Century Prints and Drawings from the Permanent Collection*, through July 25. (See Words listing for more)

### CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Installations by Illinois artists Tom Torluemke and Brian Collier, Jan. 30-March 21, opening reception Jan. 30, 5-7pm.

### Faulconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell,

641-269-4660

Photographs of St. Petersburg by Alexey Titarenko, through Feb. 22 • Retrospective of paintings, drawings, sculpture and prints by John Wilson, through April 18.

### Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

22nd Annual Children's Art Exhibit, featuring art by elementary students in the Iowa City Community Schools, Feb. 6-March 10, lobby.

### Hudson River Gallery

538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488

Wood-fired ceramics by James Kasper, through February.

### Iowa Artisans Gallery/

D.J. Rinner Goldsmith

207 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 351-8686

Watercolors by Richard Hanson, through March 8.

### Iowa State Bank & Trust

102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City

Jim Claussen: 2-Dimensional Work.

### Lorenz Boot Shop

132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053

*Divided Attention*, pastel paintings and mixed media collage by Geri Hall; *Making Waves*, mixed media by Nancy Purington; both through March.

### Mythos

9 S. Linn St., Iowa City

Jenni Prange Engleman: Recent Paintings and Stephan Johnson: Sculpture.

### Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032

Paintings by Brittany Noethen, through February; reception Feb. 14, 4-6pm.

### Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City

*Iowa—Beautiful Land*, through Feb. 15.

### UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

Pastel, oil and watercolor works by Sandra Devick, Polk City, through Feb. 27, Boyd Tower East Gallery • Color photography by Paula Bradbury, Iowa City, through April 2, Patient and Visitor Activities Center East Gallery, eighth floor John Colloton Pavilion • Book arts exhibit of works from the UI Center for the Book, through April 23, Main Lobby • Color photography by Fritz Goeckner, Burlington, Feb. 6-April 23, Patient and Visitor Activities Center West Gallery, Eighth Floor John Colloton Pavilion • Oil paintings by Sharon Burns-Knutson, Cedar Rapids, Feb. 13-May 14, Boyd Tower East Lobby.

### UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

*American Tableaux: Selections from the Collection of Walker Art Center*, an exhibition of 62 paintings, sculptures, installations, prints, and photographs on loan from the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Feb. 8-April 25. (See Film for related events)

## MUSIC

### Arts a la Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526

African Drum and Dance Workshops and Performance, Feb. 7, workshops 12:30-4pm, concert, 8pm, 337-7327 for workshop reservations.

### Clapp Recital Hall

University of Iowa campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Craig Phillips, associate director of music and composer-in-residence at All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills, Calif., Jan. 29, 8pm • Honor String Orchestra concert, Jan. 31, 7pm • Electronic Music Studios, Feb. 1, 8pm • Honors Choir, Feb. 2, 7pm • The Meridian Trio with baritone



Thomas Potter, Feb. 6, 8pm • Pianist Arthur Greene, Feb. 7, 8pm • David Spies, tuba, and Marcelina Turcanu, piano, Feb. 9, 8pm • Maia Quartet, Feb. 13, 8pm • From the Top radio broadcast with Christopher O’Riley, Feb. 14, 2pm • Uriel Tsachor and Daniel Shapiro, piano, Feb. 15, 3pm • *At Harlem’s Height*, New York Festival of Song, Feb. 19, 8pm • UI Percussion Ensemble, Feb. 21, 3pm • University Chamber Orchestra, Feb. 22, 3pm • Alan Huckleberry, piano, Feb. 23, 8pm • Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, Feb. 24, 8pm • Arianna Quartet, Feb. 25, 8pm • Kantorei, Feb. 27, 8pm • UI Percussion Ensemble, Feb. 28, 3pm • Anthony Padilla, piano, Feb. 29, 8pm.

**Coralville Holiday Inn**  
**1220 First Ave., Coralville**

DVIP Souper Bowl, with Robert Morey, soup supper fund-raiser for the Domestic Violence Intervention Project, Jan. 29, 5:30-7:30pm.

**CSPS**  
**1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580**

*8pm except Sundays (7pm)*  
John Gorka, Jan. 31 • Pieta Brown with Bo Ramsey, Feb. 6 • Peter Mayer, Feb. 21 • Cathie Ryan with Teada, Feb. 22 • Tangerine Trousers, Feb. 27 • Nerissa and Katryna Nields, Feb 29.

**Gabe’s**  
**330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788**

Chi-town rock extravaganza with The Dog and Everything, Swizzle Tree, Saraphine, Triptii, Jan. 29 • Youngblood Brass Band, The Diplomats of Solid Sound, Jan. 30 • Burn Disco Burn, Vallyn, Jan. 31 • Bear Vs Shark, Feb. 1 • Fund-raiser for IC Documentary Festival, with Making Hey!, Feb. 5, 8pm • Honeydogs, Grasshopper Takeover, Feb. 6 • Troubled Hubble, Tenki, Feb. 7 • Sworn Enemy, As I Lay Dying, Himsa, Feb. 10 • Mr. T Experience, Manplanet, Feb. 13 • Denali, Pelican, Pinebender, Ricky Fitts, Feb. 14 • Volcano, I’m Still Excited, Feb. 18 • Andre Williams, soul legend, Feb. 20 • Destrophy, Leven, Feb. 21 • Suicide Girls Burlesque Tour, Feb. 22 • Speedloader, Feb. 24 • Flying Luttenbachers, Flaccid Trip, Feb. 26 • Will Whitmore, Tight Phantomz, Feb. 27 • Ferret vs Eulogy Tour, Feb. 29.

**The Green Room**  
**509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350**

*Blues Jam Mondays, Funk and Jazz Jam Tuesdays*  
Mr. Blotto, Jupiter Brown, Jan. 29 • The Salsa Band, Jan. 30 • Ggltch, Bad Boys, Jan. 31 • Open Drum Circle, Feb. 4 • Spacklebury, Dead Roots, Feb. 5 • Savage Aural Hotbed, Martian Waters, Feb. 6 • Oteil & the Peacemakers, Mountain of Venus, Feb. 7 • The Goodyear Pimps, Breechloader, Billy Howke & the Hoax, Feb. 12 • OJ Kevin Bassett, Funkmaster Cracker, Feb. 13 • The Hog Man, Kalimbanman, Feb. 14 • OJ Mel Richards, Feb. 19 • The Big Wu, Euforquestra, Feb. 20 • NICKELBAGOFUNK, Duece, Feb. 21 • Lotus, Feb. 23 • Guest, Feb. 24 • Public Property, Feb.26 • Pat & Areo, Dexter Grove, Feb. 27 • Euforquestra, Feb. 28.

**Hancher Auditorium**  
**UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160**

UI Symphony Orchestra with piano soloist Christopher O’Riley, Feb. 11, 8pm • University Symphony Band, Feb. 21, 8pm • Honor Band Concert, Feb. 22, 2:30pm • *Pop Art: Music of the ’60s*, Bang on a Can All-Stars with Terry Riley, Feb. 28, 8pm.

**Harper Hall**  
**Voxman Music Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City**  
The Heartland Jazz Trio, Feb. 8, 2pm.

**Institute for Sacred Music**  
**Jan. 29-31, UI campus, Iowa City,**  
**various locations**

Lectures and recitals, call 335-1630 to register.

**The Java House**  
**211 E. Washington St., 341-0012**  
WSUI’s “Iowa Talks Live from the Java House,” Fridays, 10am

**The Mill**  
**120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529**

*Friends of Old Time Music acoustic jam session Tuesdays,*

*9pm; Open Mike Mondays, 8pm; all shows 8pm doors unless otherwise noted*

Flying Bacchaus, Jan. 29 • Bobby Bare Jr.’s Young Criminals Starvation League, Sam Knutson, Jan. 30 • Wylde Nept, Jan. 31 • Drive-By Truckers, Feb. 5 • Steppin’ In It, Feb. 6 • Big Wooden Radio, Feb. 7 • Wheat, Hey Mercedes, Feb. 10 • No River City, Dave Olson, Feb. 13 • The Third Annual Sweethearts’ Serenade featuring Mike and Amy Finders, Al and Aleta Murphy, Joe and Colleen Peterson, Billy Valencia and Megan Mogenson, and The Great Bluegrass Herons, Feb. 14, 7pm • Kelly Pardekooper, Ben Weaver, Feb. 28.

**Old Brick**  
**26 E. Market St., Iowa City**

Harlem Renaissance Music, Feb. 7, 7pm & 9:30pm.

**Paramount Theatre**  
**123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888**

Metropolitan Orchestra Festival, Jan. 31 • Jim Brickman Valentine Concert, Feb. 11, 7:30pm • Cedar Rapids Symphony Pops Concert: A Broadway Valentine, Feb. 14, 8pm; Feb. 15, 2:30pm, tickets 366-8203 • Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra presents “Viva la France,” Feb. 21, 8pm, tickets 366-8203.

**Sanctuary**  
**405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692**

*Jazz Jam w/ Steve Grismore, Thursdays*  
Saul Lubaroff Trio, Jan. 30-31 • Standard AIR Jazz Band, with Anthony Cox & Reggie Thomas, Feb. 6-7 • Dave Moore, Feb. 13 • Saul Lubaroff Trio, Feb. 14 • Dead Cat Bounce, jazz from Boston, Feb. 18 • Killowatt & The Count, Feb. 20 • Indoor/Outdoor, Chicago jazz with Anton Hatwich, Feb. 21 • Grismore/Scea Jazz Band, Feb. 27.

**Smokehouse**  
**511 P St., South Amana, 622-3750**

*Shows 8-11pm*  
Murphy-Lake Band, Feb. 6 • Chrys Mitchell, Feb. 7 • BillyLee Janey, Feb. 14 • Scott and Michelle Dalziel, Feb. 20 • Midlife Crisis, Feb. 21 • Nick Stika, Feb. 27 • All That, Feb. 28.

**UI Hospitals and Clinics**  
**Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417**

*John Colloton Pavilion Atrium*  
Gary Nassif of Cedar Rapids presents a Valentine concert, “Love is for Everyone,” Feb. 9, 12-1pm • Cupid’s Helpers Sax Quartet of Cedar Rapids present a Valentine concert, Feb. 11, 5:30-6:30pm • The Schmidt-Stapleton-Berman Piano Trio, three City High seniors present works by Bach, Beethoven, Khatchaturian and Vivaldi, Feb. 13, 12-1pm • Court Hill Woodwind Quintet, Feb. 20, 12-1pm • Poetry, narrative and spirituals in honor of Black History Month, Feb. 24, 12-1pm.

**UI Museum of Art**  
**150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727**

“KSUI Know the Score Live,”, Feb. 13 & Feb. 27, 5-7pm • Court Hill Woodwind Quintet, Feb. 19, 7:30pm • “Dan Knight Plays American,” with jazz pianist Dan Knight, Feb. 27, 8pm.

**Uptown Bill’s small Mall**  
**401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401**

*Mud River Open Mic, Fridays, 7-9pm, sign up before 7pm, all welcome • Irish Slow Session, Celtic jam (for more info contact Tara Dutcher, tara@schoolperformingarts.com), Sundays, 2-4pm*  
Brace for Blast, Jan 29, 7-9pm • DVIP (the Domestic Violence Intervention Project) Benefit featuring Robert Morey, Patrik Brickel and Bree Nettie Clime-White, Jan. 31, 7-10pm • Kimberlie Lambert, Feb. 5, 7-9pm • Bob Marley Birthday Party featuring Truthawk, Feb. 6, 8-11pm • Caleb Ryder, Feb. 7, 7-9pm • Teddy Goldstein, Feb. 11, 7-9pm • Central Standard Time, Greg and Susan Dirks, Feb. 14, 7-10pm • Jennifer Danielson, Feb. 21, 7-9pm • Afro-Folk Jam, Feb. 28, 7-9pm.

**US Cellular Center**  
**370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888**

Brooks & Dunn, Joe Nichols, Josh Turner, Feb. 21, 7:30pm.

**Yacht Club**  
**13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464**

*Blues Jam hosted, Sundays 8pm-12am; Jam Band Jam hosted by Doggman Music Company, Wednesdays*  
Star Candy, Jan. 31 • Chris Beard, Feb. 3 • Backyard Tire Fire, Feb. 5 • Flavor, Public Property, Feb. 6 • Dennis McMurrin and the Demolition Band, Feb. 7 • Starrunner, Feb. 10 • Conspire, The Peal, Parallax, Feb. 12 • Diplomats of Solid Sound, The Ernie Hendrickson Band, Feb. 13 • The Grommits, Wave Fry, Feb. 19 • Skunk River Bandits, Feb. 20 • Scream n Peas, Brace For Blast, Feb. 21 • The Antique Fog Cafe, Feb. 26 • Afterglow, Lost Toys, Feb. 27 • BF Burt & The Instigators & Flying Bacchus, Feb. 28.

**DANCE**

**Arts a la Carte**  
**20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526**

African Drum and Dance Workshops and Performance, Feb. 7, workshops 12:30-4pm, concert, 8pm, 337-7327 for workshop reservations.

**Space/Place Theatre**  
**North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City**

Graduate Concert, UI Dance Department, Feb. 12-14, 8pm.

**THEATER/ PERFORMANCE**

**Brucemore**  
**2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375**  
*Dear Sweetheart—The Letters of Howard and Margaret Hall*, love story of former Brucemore residents told in letters, Feb. 14, 7:30pm; Feb. 15, 2pm & 7:30pm.

**Campbell Steele Gallery**  
**1064 Seventh Ave., Marion 373-9211**  
Liars Holographic Radio Theatre, music and original skits, special guest Ray Blue, Feb. 20-21, 8pm; Feb. 22, 7pm.

**Hancher Auditorium**  
**UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160**  
*Nomade*, Quebec’s Cirque Eloize presents carnival production with music, acrobatics and drama, Feb. 6, 8pm; Feb. 7, 2pm & 8pm; Feb. 8, 3pm • *Othello*, by William Shakespeare, Aquila Theatre Company, Feb. 17-18, 8pm.

**The Mill**  
**120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529**  
*Without a Net*, monologue from the creators of Riverside Theatre’s *Walking the Wire*, Feb. 8, 7pm.

**Owl Glass Puppetry Center**  
**319 N. Calhoun, West Liberty, 627-248**  
*Little Red Riding Hood*, Eulenspiegel’s adaptation of the Grimm’s fairy tale, Feb. 15, 2pm & 4:30pm

**Paramount Theatre**  
**123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888**  
*The Music Man*, Jan. 29, 7:30pm, tickets 398-0223 • *Broadway Maybies 2004*, Jan. 30, 7pm, tickets 364-8909 • *La Boheme*, by Opera Verdi Europa, Feb. 19, 8pm.

**Riverside Theatre**  
**213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672**  
*Wed. & Thurs. 7pm; Fri. & Sat. 8pm; Sun. 2pm*  
*The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*, Iowa premiere of Edward Albee’s Tony Award-winning play about a family with an extreme secret, through Feb. 15.

**Theatre Cedar Rapids**  
**102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592**  
*7:30pm Fri.- Sat.; 2:30pm Sun.*  
*Treasure Island*, Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic pirate tale, Jan. 30-Feb. 15.

**UI Theatre**  
**Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160**  
No Shame Theatre, Fridays, 11pm, Theatre B • *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*, Tony Kushner’s Tony Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of love, betrayal, meaning and hope in the Reagan Era, Feb. 5-7, 12-14, 8pm; Feb. 8 & 15, 3pm, E.C. Mabie Theatre • Ten-Minute





**Demetrios Hadjis as Long John Silver and Jeff White as Jim Hawkins in Theatre Cedar Rapids' presentation of *Treasure Island*, Jan. 30-Feb. 15.**

Play Festival, Feb. 12-14, 8pm; Feb. 15, 3pm, Theatre B • *Top Ten*, by Peter Gil-Sheridan, Feb. 19-21, 8pm; Feb. 22, 3pm, Theatre B • *The Seven*, hip-hop piece by Will Power, Feb. 25-28, 8pm; Feb. 29, 3pm.

#### **US Cellular Center**

**370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888**  
Disney on Ice presents *Three Jungle Adventures: The Jungle Book, Tarzan and The Lion King*, Feb. 26-27, 7pm; Feb. 28, 11am, 3pm & 7pm; Feb. 29, 1pm & 5pm.

### **AUDITIONS, CALLS, ETC.**

#### **Riverside Theatre**

**213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672**  
Auditions for the professional acting company, and interview/auditions for the intern company, of the Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival, Feb. 7, 10am-2pm, call to schedule, [www.riversidetheatre.org](http://www.riversidetheatre.org) for more info.

#### **Theatre Cedar Rapids**

**102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592**  
Auditions for *Laura* and *Dearly Departed*, Feb. 1-2, 7pm, call for more info or [www.theatreocr.org](http://www.theatreocr.org).

### **COMEDY**

#### **The Mill**

**120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529**  
Lightning in a Bottle, Feb. 3, 8pm.

#### **Paramount Theatre**

**123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888**  
Carrot Top, Feb. 6, 7:30pm.

### **WORDS**

#### **Boyd Law Bldg.**

**UI campus, Iowa City**  
"Whither Goes Cuba: Prospects for Economic and Social Development," symposium bringing together some of the nation's leading experts on US-Cuba relations, Feb. 6-7, [www.uiowa.edu/ifdebook](http://www.uiowa.edu/ifdebook).

#### **Brucemore**

**2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375**  
"From Galen's Trunk," Galen Lacey, Lacey Antique Prints, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, Feb. 26, 2pm & 7pm.

#### **Cedar Rapids Museum of Art**

**410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503**  
"The Anatomy of a Mural," David Garman, Art Sandwiched In, Feb. 4, 12pm • Encaustic Art, Elaine Beck, Saturday at the Forum, Feb. 7, 1pm • Family Workshop, Saturday at the Forum, Feb. 14, 1pm • "Salvete, Welcome to Our House! An Intimate Tour of a Roman Home," Dr. John Cunnally, Iowa State University, Thursdays on Third, Feb. 19, 7-8pm • Grottesca Using Stencils, art workshop for adults, Saturday at the Forum, Feb. 28, 10am-4pm.

#### **The Green Room**

**509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350**  
Poetry Slam, Feb. 11 & 25, 9pm.

#### **Harper Hall**

**Voxman Music Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City**  
"Artists as Witnesses: The Role of the Artist in Oppressive Societies," panel discussion, Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio and Christopher Merrill, Feb. 23, 7:30pm.

#### **Iowa Memorial Union**

**UI campus, Iowa City**  
Mary Wilson, professor of internal medicine, Finding God at Lunch, Feb. 6, 12pm, River Room 1.

#### **Lindquist Center**

**UI campus, Iowa City**  
UI College of Education Diversity Committee Martin Luther King Diversity Research Poster Symposium, showcasing student research projects (at all stages) related to diversity, keynote speaker John-Paul Cardenas-Chaisson, Jan. 30, 12-2pm, Jones Commons.

#### **The Mill**

**120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529**  
Talk/Art/Cabaret, Feb. 11, 9pm.

#### **Prairie Lights**

**15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City (unless otherwise noted), 337-2681**

*All 8pm; Broadcast live on WSUI (unless otherwise noted)*  
UI Workshop students Daniel Alarcon and Yiyun Li, Jan. 29, 8pm • UI Workshop alum Anthony Swofford reads from his Gulf-War memoir, *Jarhead*, Jan. 30 • Peter Manseau and Jeff Sharlet read from *Killing the Buddha: A Heretics Bible*, Feb. 2 • Poet and Workshop student G.C. Waldrep reads from his debut collection, *Goldbeater's Skin*, Feb. 3 • Michigan humorist Cheryl Peck reads from *Fat Girls and Lawn Chairs*, Feb. 5 • Ana Menendez reads from her novel, *Loving Che*, Feb. 6 • Australian novelist Max Barry reads from his novel, *Jennifer Government*, Feb. 9 • Native Iowa Citian Dan Lechay reads from his collection of poems, *The Quarry*, Feb. 11 • Poet Graham Foust reads from his two

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#### **Thursday Jan 29th**

no cover 7-9PM Brace for Blast

#### **Saturday Jan 31st**

donation 7-10PM DVIP Benefit featuring Robert Morey, Patrick Brickel, and Bree Nettie Clime-White

#### **Thursday Feb 5th**

\$3 7-9PM Kimberly Lambert

#### **Friday Feb 6th**

no cover 8-11 PM Bob Marley Birthday Party featuring reggae music by Truthhawk

#### **Saturday Feb 7th**

\$3 7-9PM Caleb Ryder

#### **Tuesday Feb 11th**

\$5 7-9PM Teddy Goldstein

#### **Saturday Feb 14th**

\$3 7-10PM Central Standard Time w/ guests Greg and Susan Dirks

#### **Saturday Feb 21st**

\$3 7-9PM Jennifer Danielson

#### **Saturday Feb 28th**

\$3 7-9PM Afro-Folk Jam

#### **Thursday March 4th**

donation 7-9PM Kirkwood Theater Showcase

#### **Saturday March 6th**

\$3 7-9PM Kalimbanan Scotty Hayward

#### **Saturday March 13th**

Bree Nettie Clime-White and Jami Fry of the Antique Fog Cafe

#### **Saturday March 20th**

\$7-\$10 sug.donation Maggie Simpson w/ special guest the Mad River Duo



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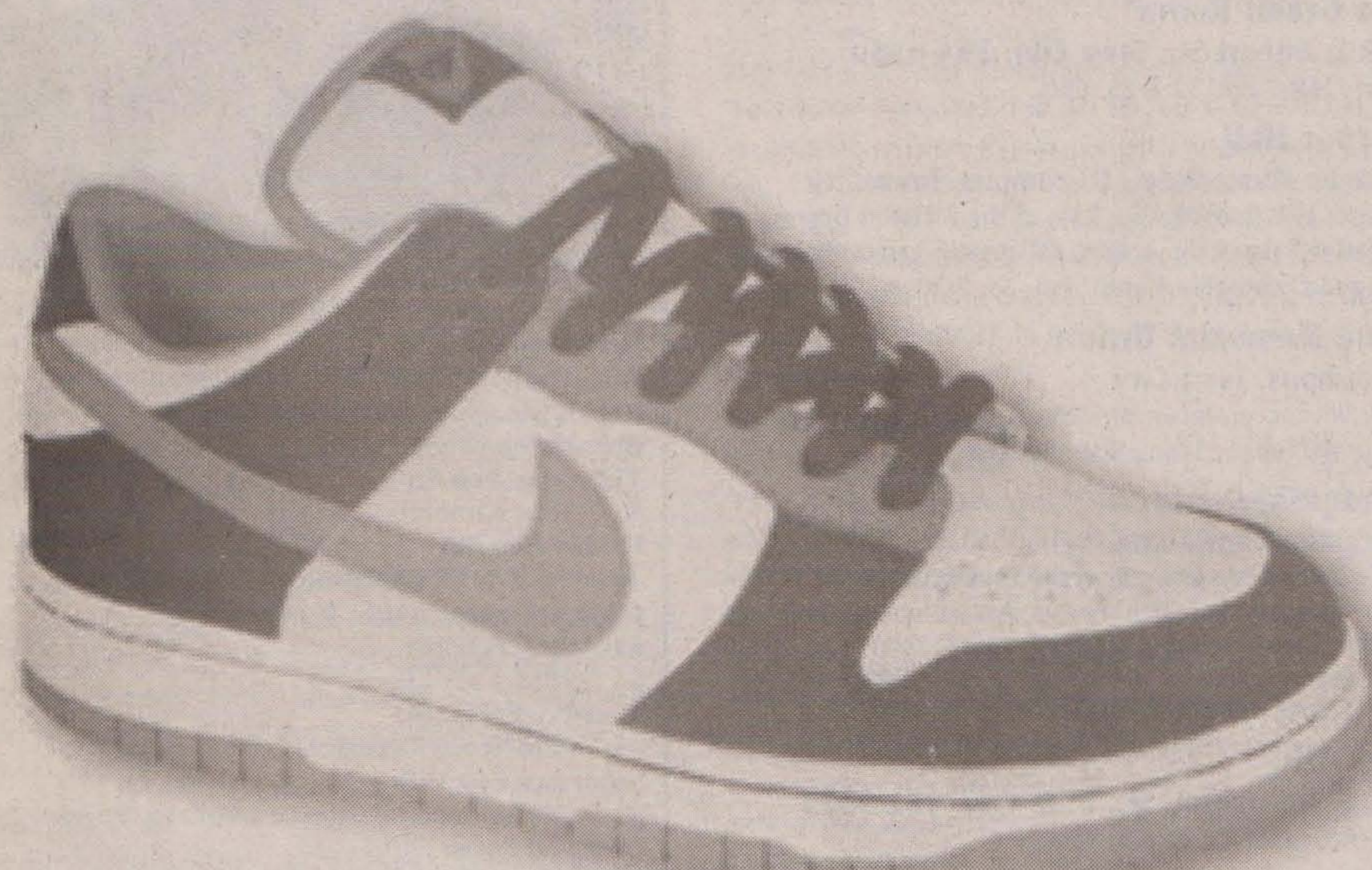
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recent collections, Feb. 12 • *Sports Illustrated* reporter Alex Wolff reads from his new book, *Big Game, Small World*, Feb. 16 • Novelist Haven Kimmel reads from her second novel, *Something Rising*, Feb. 17 • Shanghai-born poet Wang Ping reads from *The Magic Whip*, her latest book of poems, Feb. 18 • Historian John D'Emilio reads from *The Lost Prophet: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin*, Feb. 20 • Kate Christensen reads from her collection of short fiction, *Epicure's Lament*, Feb. 23 • Workshop grad Barbara Cully reads from her second collection of poems, *Desire Reclining*, Feb. 26 • Workshop grad James Sullivan reads from *Over the Moat*, Feb. 27.

## Senior Center

**28 S. Linn St., Iowa City**

Life and Culture in Russia, Feb. 18, 10am • Janie Yates Reading: Tribute to Black History Month, Feb. 20, 2pm • The Humorous Side of Golf, Feb. 26, 1pm.

## UI Hospitals and Clinics

**Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417**

*John Colloton Pavilion Atrium*

Poetry, narrative and spirituals in honor of Black History Month, Feb. 24, 12-1pm.

## UI Museum of Art

**150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727**

"KSUI Know the Score Live," Feb. 13 & Feb. 27, 5-7pm  
• Dale Fisher, UIMA curator of education, guided tour of *American Tableaux*, Feb. 22, 2pm.

## FILM

### Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

**410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503**

*Rome: Power and Glory, Part I*, Saturday at the Forum, Feb. 21, 1pm.

### UI Museum of Art

**150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727**

Eight films from the Walker Art Center's Edmond R. Ruben Film Study Collection, Fridays, 2pm: Charlie Chaplin's *A Woman and Easy Street*, Feb. 8; *Primary* by Robert Drew, Feb. 15; *Scorpio Rising* by Kenneth Anger, *Castro Street* by Bruce Baillie and *Hold Me While I'm Naked* by George Kuchar, Feb. 22; *One Way Boogie Woogie* by James Benning and *Shulie* by Elizabeth Subrin, Feb. 29. (See Art for related exhibit)

## MISC.

### G Spot Hair Design

**9 South Linn St., Iowa City**

Valentine's Day Locks of Love Hair Drive, donations used to create prosthetic hair pieces for children suffering from long-term medical hair loss, consultations and haircuts to children and adults donating at least 10" of unbleached, healthy hair, Feb. 14, 12-6pm.

### Iowa City Spells

**Feb. 17, Sheraton Hotel, downtown Iowa City**

Spelling bee benefit for IC Public Library, 356-5249 for info.

### Riverside Theatre

**213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672**

"Diamonds or Denim," Riverside Theatre's annual fundraiser, silent auction, food, Feb. 27, 6pm, Sheraton Hotel, downtown Iowa City.

### Ruby's Pearl

**323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032**

Three-year Anniversary Party, Feb. 13, 4-9pm.

### Senior Center

**28 S. Linn St., Iowa City**

Wintertime Dinner Dance, Feb. 13, 5pm, pre-register Feb. 6, 356-5220.

## CLASSES

### School for the Performing Arts

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After that, the woman I'd spoken with the night before at the IMU, Diane Troyer, took the floor on behalf of Howard Dean. "I have been in LA for 20 years," she said with avid emotion. "Being in California makes you realize what a great community this is. I have people in California calling to see what this is like."

She got many nods of affirmation and support from those around the room. Her sister's family was there, and her aging mother.

**Troyer said all the candidates were great, but Dean was a fighter: "Dean's a wrestler; he's got a thick neck."**

Troyer added that all the candidates were great, but Dean was a fighter: "Dean's a wrestler; he's got a thick neck."

When the Dean supporters were done speaking, my husband asked if anyone else would like to talk about any of the remaining candidates.

It was clear from the ensuing silence that we had heard from all of the candidates with enough people there to muster our measly delegate, but my husband decided to talk about Congressman Dennis Kucinich anyway, and I chimed in saying this was our only chance to tell the Democratic Party where, philosophically, we would like them to be.

Our eventual vote was a surprise, I think, to almost everybody in the room. We somehow came out with 23 votes for Kerry, with Edwards and Dean tying for second place at 10 each.

It was clear that while Kerry voters may be weren't as fervent as Dean or Kucinich supporters, they did bake cookies and

## Caucus is a funny word

*Neither Webster nor Roget knows where this word came from. It could be from the Algonquian word caucausu (meaning counselor), or it might have derived from The Caucus Club of Boston, a 1760s social and political club whose name came from the Greek word kaukos (drinking cup).*

showed up in force in Iowa on Jan. 19.

When the count was final, Don Sehr helped my husband call in the results and gave us instructions to drive into town (to the First Avenue Club) with my "minutes" and a whole packet of forms.

"There's a little party there," Don said. "You can go if you want."

### A bigger Lincoln bedroom

Don and Anita Sehr have been assisting with the Democratic caucus in their precinct for over 30 years and over the years hosted at least three caucuses in their own living room. Don mused about how the caucus process has gained momentum over the years. "Before it was just coffee and cake, then you signed the nomination papers and that was it," he said.

He remembers the caucuses growing in influence and popularity during Carter's campaign and also recalls standing on stage with Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro at the Iowa Memorial Union, months before that historic nomination.

In endless memorable events such as

this, the caucus makes democracy tangible for those who participate. Personal relationships with candidates and campaigns are established, and these relationships inspire a kind of political involvement and dedication that I just never saw in my years growing up in the Chicago suburbs.

Helen Burford spoke of the importance of the caucus on several levels: "Locally, the caucus is extremely important because Johnson County votes heavily Democratic and is, therefore, a real testing ground for any Democratic candidate. Secondly, the caucus stimulates the local economy. Nationally, the caucus is a symbol of democracy."

You may vaguely recall the scandals regarding access to the president when Clinton was granting weekends in the Lincoln bedroom to big donors. The truth is, with enough money, one can buy the attention of virtually any elected or campaigning individual. But the only time virtually any average Joe Schmo can bend the ear of presidential candidates is during the Iowa caucus campaign season.

Participating, even a little bit, means becoming aware of the value and rarity of this odd, little process. **LV**

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Strange but True!

# News Quirks

Compiled by Roland Sweet

## Curses, Foiled Again

Former forensic scientist Graham Halksworth, 69, was convicted of authenticating \$2.5 trillion worth of counterfeit US Treasury bonds, which he claimed had been secretly issued in 1934 to help Chinese nationalists undermine the Communist revolution. He was arrested after Canadian authorities noticed several things wrong with the bonds when two men tried to cash some at a Toronto bank. The bonds said "dollar" instead of "dollars" and included ZIP codes, which weren't introduced until 1963. Further investigation found they were run off on an ink-jet printer that hadn't been invented in 1934. Judge William Birtles called Halksworth, who received \$110,000 for his role, "an incompetent conspirator, and there was a very thin chance of the conspiracy succeeding."

Chance Copp, 15, admitted submitting a male relative's urine for his own for testing while on probation in Chillicothe, Ohio, for arson. He said he was afraid tests would detect that he'd smoked marijuana. The sample he provided tested positive for cocaine.

Wanted in Pennsylvania for dipping into his company's bank account and using stolen cash to take two strippers to Miami, Guillermo A. Martinez was arrested the day before Thanksgiving at a toll plaza near Annapolis, Md. He didn't have enough money to pay a highway toll, then filled out a form that would let him pay later by mail and gave his real name. "The toll taker ran a check," Assistant US Attorney John Pease said, "and saw that we'd issued a warrant for him back in September."

## Wideloads Digest

Two days after Timothy Dumouchel, 48, of West Bend, Wis., threatened to sue his cable television company for conspiring against his family by giving them free cable TV, he called off the lawsuit but still insisted that the company had forced TV on them. He said that when he asked Charter Communications to disconnect his service in 1999, Charter stopped billing him but

never discontinued his hookup. "I believe that the reason I smoke and drink every day and my wife is overweight is because we watched television every day for the last four years," Dumouchel declared, blaming Charter for his TV addiction and his wife's 50-pound weight gain. In announcing that he was unlodging his police complaint against Charter, Dumouchel explained that his wife was angry with him for his comment about her weight.

Susan Fair, 51, couldn't explain her wildly fluctuating weight, which at one point neared 260 pounds, insisting that she ate little besides strawberries, apples and cottage cheese. After 20 years, she finally discovered that she is a sleep eater, who pigs out in the middle of the night without realizing it. "I could eat, like, a whole box of cereal," she told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. "If somebody had given us a box of candy, I'd eat that. It was all of the stuff I would never permit myself to eat." Since being diagnosed, Fair has been taking medication that keeps her in bed all night and said she has "lost probably 80 pounds over a two-year period."

## Drinking-Class Heroes

Within 20 minutes of winning a vodka-drinking contest in Volgodonsky, Russia, Aleksandr Nakonechny died from alcohol poisoning, forfeiting his prize: 10 liters of vodka. According to prosecutor Roman Popov, five other contestants ended up in intensive care.

## Step Backward

Thinking they had discovered a ninth-century Viking settlement in Scotland, archaeologists spent days excavating the site in Fife where Marion Garry, 50, reported uncovering unusual stones in her garden. The stones turned out to be from a 1940s sunken patio, according to Scottish archaeologist Douglas Speirs, who admitted, "After all our efforts, you can imagine how silly we feel." Garry said she intends to keep the patio, explaining, "It looks quite messy now, but I think it will look very pretty with flowers and plants growing around it during the summer."

## Homeland Insecurity

Charles Brady, 49, the chief of the Transportation Security Administration at Washington's Dulles International Airport, was charged with driving while intoxicated when he was supposed to be on duty for a New Year's Eve security exercise during the nation's Code Orange alert. Court papers showed he had a blood alcohol level of 0.26, more than three times the legal limit.

The Internal Revenue Service announced it is auditing the tax returns of about 800

IRS employees because of suspicious business deductions. Other IRS workers who helped co-workers prepare their returns reported noticing a recurring pattern of deductions.

## Government Thinking

Officials in Vicksburg, Miss., adopted a new attendance policy requiring hourly workers to give two days' notice before taking sick leave. Employees who fail to provide notice will be charged for personal leave. City personnel director Lamar Horton said the policy is aimed at curbing sick-pay abuse.

## What's in a Name

After Owensboro (Ky.) Medical Health System reported the theft of 50 antique glass eyes from an exhibit of medical artifacts, police arrested a suspect: 36-year-old Melissa Jane Wink.

## Woe Is We

The United States has the world's unhappiest well-to-do people, according to a survey of 11,000 high-income people from 11 countries. Two-thirds of Americans who make more than \$60,000 a year say they're stressed out several times a week, followed by Australians, 63 percent; Japanese, 60 percent; and Canadians, 58 percent. The survey, conducted for American Express, found that residents in Hong Kong are the most laid back, followed by the Brazilians, Germans, Italians, Mexicans, French, and British. Even though most people in Hong Kong work more than nine hours a day and commute an hour to work, Elizabeth Coleman of American Express pointed out, "They just seem to go with the flow."

## Talking Trash

The New Hampshire Supreme Court ruled that garbage is private, even when it has been put out near the street for collection.

Winnipeg officials are setting up 10 security cameras to deter looters at a city landfill. Don McInness, the city's manager of solid waste, said the cameras are part of a \$1-million upgrade of the dump.

Chicago residents Ezekial Garnett, 27, and his sister, Karen, 24, had a winning lottery ticket worth \$10.5 million but mistakenly threw it out without checking the numbers. When their mother told them the winning ticket had been sold where they bought theirs, they were able to search the trash because it hadn't been collected, thanks to a citywide garbage strike.

Compiled from the nation's press by Roland Sweet. Submit clippings, citing source and date, to POB 8130, Alexandria VA 22306.



# stars over iowa city

FORECAST FOR FEBRUARY 2004 • BY DR. STAR



**AQUARIUS** (Jan 20–Feb 18) For Aquarius, the emphasis in February is, again, financial. Expect positive developments with important, long-term implications. Moves that would ordinarily be difficult will be facilitated by the trend of events. People who might ordinarily oppose you are inclined to go along with you. You will also have a strong, intuitive understanding of events, but, given the generally changeable conditions, it's best not to try anything really big. Excitement around the home could bring emotional challenges. You will feel the force of your own charisma at work in your environment.



**PISCES** (Feb 19–March 20) Pisceans might not have any more direct, effective control over events than the next person. In fact, they will likely face resistance at every turn. (Sorry to say.) However, this won't matter much. Pisceans are so immersed in the process of change, overflowing with insight, intuition and motivation to change, they won't notice the resistance—or care. Even if you can only take baby steps toward your goal, you know there is no alternative and no going back, and that what you achieve will be of substantial and lasting value.



**ARIES** (March 21–April 19) For a down-to-earth sign, Aries sure is expending lots of time and energy dreaming about a better future...for everybody. You are being bombarded by a blizzard of ideas about how to improve the world, if not save it, exactly. Meanwhile, a blizzard of events on the ground is driving you in the same direction. The problem, as usual, is finances. Let your budget be your guide. Figuring out which great moral crusades you can comfortably afford to participate in will help you sort through the options.



**TAURUS** (April 20–May 20) Taureans will experience more than their fair share of inspiration. A kind of frantic instability pervades your environment. You will also feel highly motivated to share your insights with confused, troubled and hyperactive associates. However, there is precious little you can do to directly affect or shape events at the moment. Pay close attention to your own good instincts. They are reliable. Work quietly and privately behind the scenes. You can lay a solid foundation for important and lasting work in the future. Small, solid, irreversible advances are possible.



**GEMINI** (May 21–June 20) You might start February feeling rather resistant to change, but you will end February with nothing on your mind but the need for change. There's scarcely an aspect of your life and career that will not be affected. There is much to work with, though, and a very good possibility that everything will eventually fall into place. You will have access to a great deal of private information about possible courses of action. But you'd best keep it to yourself. Everything is uncertain and talking about it would worry people unduly.



**CANCER** (June 21–July 22) Cancers occupy an important place in the loop these days. You are midway between the forces of change and the forces most likely to resist change. You also have the clear—and accurate—sense that things will go your way, at least in the long term. Intense and lengthy conflict is highly likely. Try to stay above the fray and, despite your clear advantage, try to be fair and sympathetic in your dealings during these difficult and changeable times. Selfish or self-serving actions will come back to haunt you.



**LEO** (July 23–Aug 22) Cats don't like water at all. So I can't imagine that Leos will enjoy being at sea, as they

certainly will be, starting this month. You will be pretty much surrounded by unfocused, undirected and hyperactive sorts. And you will often find yourself directly at odds with them. Sadly, this condition is long term. It is, however, an extremely creative time for you and, with effort, you will be able to bring off a creative coup or two or three. You will definitely have to throw your creative weight around, though.



**VIRGO** (Aug 23–Sept 22) If I were a Virgo, I'm not sure I would trust my own judgment right now—especially where work and health are concerned. These areas are under especially bewildering influences. The tendency is to worry and fret way too much about the future and the past. Things are extremely fluid and loaded with good potential now. If you pursue long-established goals with discipline and determination, you can make great progress toward achieving these ambitions. Counter fears and mood swings with art and music. Call upon your spiritual resources, too.



**LIBRA** (Sept 23–Oct 22) Librans are feeling inspired, energized, generally well-motivated and free to maneuver. You don't have any direct control over events or any direct involvement in decision-making, but don't worry about that. Hardly anybody does. All things considered, though, Librans are pretty well positioned to profit from future developments. You have been involved with many fascinating, promising things on an educational or recreational level. Events will shortly create interest in and demand for all those fascinating things you have been experimenting with. But it will take time to work out.



**SCORPIO** (Oct 23–Nov 21) Scorpio has a secret weapon in February: inner confidence. You're on the right track and you know it. You also have special insight into the nature and direction of the changes taking place. In a changeable time, full of exaggerated rhetoric and overconfidence, it is easy to take a wrong turn or make a wrong move. You will probably have to watch in frustration as a lot of people, including friends and family, are misled by hype and make wrong turns. Sadly, not everyone will listen to your good advice.



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 22–Dec 21) Sagittarians continue to have their fingers on the pulse of powerful people in their lives, but these powerful people are being knocked around by powers greater than themselves. Also, those over whom they exercise power are getting pretty rambunctious. These unsettling trends will continue. Your best course of action is to protect long-term financial interests during these changeable times. Keep an especially close eye on expenditures. Profit from growing links between local activities and similar activities in distant places. Strengthen your base of support by networking more widely.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22–Jan 19) Capricorn's financial sectors are being very heavily stimulated. You can make some very beneficial, long-term changes to your whole financial set up, making it more productive and stable. However, many of these changes could leave you feeling a little unsure. They could also require tough adjustments in your social life. However, there are strong, positive, expansive vibes affecting your social life. It's time to make a change and the planets are providing both sticks and carrots: costs for not changing and lots of energy and opportunity to make changes. **LV**



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